

THE TIMES

Monday

Boat people
Three years ago everyone knew about the "boat people", those pitiful refugees from the wars of South-East Asia. Today the exodus continues but the sympathy seems to have run out. William Shawcross reports.

High water mark
Modern Times goes messing about in boat to discover just what is so special for riverbank folk about Henley Royal Regatta.

Wimbledon
David Miller and Rex Bellamy report on the weekend matches and look ahead to the finals.

US budget setback for Reagan

The US Congress voted a budget programme to raise \$12 billion in new taxes in 1984 and cut by half the 10 per cent increase in defence urged by President Reagan. Page 11

Publisher quits

Mr Mark Collins, the last member of his family to serve on the board of William Collins & Sons, the publishers, has resigned his directorship and will not become chairman and chief executive of Hatchard's, the company's Piccadilly bookshop.

Murder hunt

An intruder battered to death two elderly widows in separate flats at a house in Plymouth. The police said the killings were vicious and cold-blooded. Page 3

Sotheby ruling

Mr Alfred Taubman's buying of shares in Sotheby's, the auction house, has been curtailed by a ruling from the Takeover Panel. Page 11

BL peace vote

Workers at BL's Cowley body plant voted in a secret ballot to accept the ending of "washing up-time" at the end of shifts. Back page

Afghan promise

Eight days of indirect talks in Geneva between Afghan and Pakistani delegations ended with what UN officials called "substantial progress".

Coroner's alarm

A coroner looking into the death of a woman near Farnham firing range said he was amazed that boundary boards were obscured. Jerry's visit, page 5

Narayan guilty

Mr Rudy Narayan, the black rights barrister, has been found guilty of professional misconduct by the Bar Disciplinary Tribunal and ordered to be suspended for six weeks.

Chile strike

Chilean labour leaders yesterday claimed the national strike a success, but most people went to work normally unaware of it because of strict media censorship.

Banker riddle

Mr Dennis Skinner, the British banker who died in a fall in Moscow a week ago, was despatched to leave the Soviet Union.

Backing for PR

Mr Peter Doherty, President of the European Parliament, urged Britain to consider introducing proportional representation for next year's elections for the European Parliament.

Auction record

A painting by James Tissot of his mistress was sold at Christie's for £561,600, a record for a Victorian painting. Page 18

Coe beaten

Sebastian Coe was beaten in a 1,500 metres race in Paris last night by Jose-Luis Gonzalez of Spain. Coe was pushed off the track in the first 100 metres and finished second.

Business News, page 11

Leader page 9
Letters: On the "think tank" from Sir John Hoskyns and Mr David Howell, MP; mortgages, from Lord Young of Dartington; plant protection, from Dr F B O'Connor and Dr Max Wade. Leading articles: Legislation about rates; International Democratic Union; Youth training programme. Features, page 8
Why the Alliance should be more than an affair; Italian election scandals; enter the video telephone; Bolivar and the British.

Obituary, page 10
General Henri Navarre, Señor Osvaldo Díaz, Tomás, Professor Geoffrey Bond.

Arafat ordered out of Syria as PLO support fades

From Robert Fisk, Beirut
carrying leading articles which indirectly referred to the PLO leader as "the bar who has joined the plots against the Arab nation". There was no mistaking the message contained in these words: Syria has now set out to crush Mr Arafat's supporters.

There were, however, deeper implications. On Thursday night, Mr Arafat had travelled unexpectedly to Damascus from Lebanon to receive a personal letter President Andropov, who was trying to heal the rift in the PLO and give his own support to Mr Arafat. The Russians are now likely to be as angry as the PLO at Syria's treatment of the Palestinian leader, and those American officials who have encouraged President Assad's regimemay now have to reassess their judgements.

In one of the most extraordinary days in the PLO's 18-year history, PLO officials also reported that gunmen staged an ambush on Palestinian military lorries on the road between Damascus and Homs - deep inside Syria - killing at least four guerrillas and wounding another six.

On the outskirts of the Syrian capital, Palestinian civilians at the Yarmouk refugee camp demonstrated in support of Mr Arafat, a show of solidarity that was swiftly dispersed by Syrian police.

Even Mr Arafat's most senior military commander, Abu Jihad (Khalil al-Wazir) was told that he could not return to Syria from Lebanon.

The Syrians made no official statement but the state-controlled press in Damascus

Nevertheless, there can be no doubt the mood of desperation - perhaps panic would not be too extreme a word - among Mr Arafat's own officers. Speaking more like a besieged general than the Palestinian commander who defended west Beirut against the Israeli Army last summer, Mr Abu Jihad said in the Lebanese Bekaa town of Chouf yesterday that if his men were again attacked by Syrian troops or PLO rebels, "the order is every fighter to defend his place".

His words matched Mr Arafat's growing despair. When I met him amid darkened fields outside the northern Lebanese city of Tripoli at a night rendezvous this week, the PLO leader looked fatigued and several times raised his hands to his face when he objected to some of the questions I asked him about the mutiny and the future of the PLO.

In Damascus yesterday he described suggestions that his leadership might be in doubt as "a joke". Asked about Syria's denial of any involvement in the PLO mutiny, he said: "That's another joke".

Among his retinue there is a suspicion that yesterday's ambush on the Horns road - assuming it occurred as the PLO say - might have been intended for none other than Mr Arafat himself.

Begins move

Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, has agreed to consider referring the doctors' pay dispute to arbitration, in a move to end the strike



Despair: Mr Arafat hides his face from a searching question.

Conservatives of the world unite

By Henry Stanshope, Diplomatic Correspondent

national. It girdles the earth.

She went on: "Today we must launch a vigorous campaign to bring freedom and justice to those who do not have them. We must use our joint resources to help bring the benefits of economic prosperity to developing countries.

If the Third World or parts of it looked in the past to Moscow for economic aid and support they have largely ceased to do so. They have seen the new imperialism in operation in eastern Europe.

Mr Bush took the opportunity to defend US policy in Central America, a theme which is expected to dominate his current tour of Western countries. The US was providing military assistance to help to resist subversion by forces "belonging to totalitarian powers".

He said: "The Soviet Union, democracy's main opponent, has been overtaken and occupied Afghanistan and rained poisonous chemicals on the innocent peoples of both Afghanistan and South-East Asia. In Poland the Soviets have backed the brutal suppression of human rights.

The Pope's visit proved that although the Soviets can suppress rights they can never suppress courage.

Next came a press conference at which the IDU adopted the somewhat Kremlin-like tactic of demanding written questions in advance. Demand outstripped supply and at least one disgruntled reporter complained that his question had not been called.

Leading article, page 9

Three die in motorway coach crash

Two women and a man died, and 21 were injured, 12 seriously, when a Midland Red express coach from Birmingham to Worcester skidded and rolled down an embankment on the M5 motorway between Bromsgrove and Droitwich yesterday. Last night doctors feared the death toll might rise.

The bus ended up on its roof and had been concertined down one side. Most of the injuries were suffered by passengers trapped at the back.

Mr Brian Barnes, a lorry driver, said that the accident

Challenger flight ends with a hug

From Trevor Fishlock, New York

The space shuttle Challenger completed its successful six-day mission with a perfect landing at Edwards Air Force base in California yesterday.

It glided in over the Pacific after 98 orbits of the Earth and, 45 minutes after landing, the five blue-suited astronauts emerged with broad smiles.

Sally Ride, aged 32, America's first woman in space, received an affectionate pat on her back from one of her crewmates, and a hug from another.

The Californian touchdown was the only disappointment of a remarkable journey. Cloudy weather forced a late change in the plan to land a shuttle for the first time at Cape Canaveral.

"The good news is that the beer is cold," Challenger's crew were told by Mission Control. "The bad news is that it is 3,000 miles away in Florida."

The big public welcome was also in Florida, along with the beer.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (Nasa) was looking for a Florida landing so that the expense and time involved in bringing the shuttle across country would be saved.

The preparation time for shuttle flights has already been reduced during the seven shuttle missions from 750 to 63, but Nasa wants an even faster turn-round.

The switch of landing places gave the five Challenger astronauts an extra two orbits of the earth. Commander Robert Crippen fired braking rockets to slow the spacecraft from 17,400 mph and to bring it down from its 184-mile high orbit.

Commander Crippen, who landed the first shuttle, Columbia, in 1981, piloted the 100-ton craft in a wide loop over the Mojave desert before landing in a cloud of dust at 6.57am local time, 2.57pm BST.

Leading article, page 9

Import surge causes £552m deficit

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

Britain's balance of overseas trade sank further into the red last month as imports soared to record levels. The latest official figures show a deficit of £552m last month, the biggest drop for more than four years, after a deficit of £360m in April and a surplus of £384m in March.

The latest deterioration is due largely to special factors, but the underlying trends suggest that Britain's slow recovery from recession is already attracting large quantities of imports, while exports have remained steady.

This year the surplus on current account, including invisible trade such as banking, insurance and shipping, has fallen to only £35m, compared with the Treasury's budget forecast for the full year of £150m, while the visible trade deficit has topped £140m.

The current account showed a deficit of £302m last month from £110m in April, after taking account of an estimated £20m surplus in invisible trade.

The deficit on non-oil trade has worsened sharply this year. The volume of exports is slightly lower than the average for last year, while the volume of imports is 6.5 per cent higher.

In value terms the devaluation is more marked. Exports are 4 per cent up on last year, but the cost of imports has jumped by 18 per cent, as the pound has fallen.

To some extent higher imports are the inevitable consequence of the economic upturn because industry needs to buy in fuel and raw materials from abroad.

But the rise in imports of manufactures, especially consumer goods which are 9 per cent up by volume on last year's average, is more worrying.

On the foreign exchanges the news clipped just over a quarter of a cent from an earlier gain for the pound.

Army depot fire costs millions

By a Staff Reporter

A multi-million pound fire destroyed a 10-acre storage warehouse at the Royal Ordnance Depot, Donnington, Shropshire, yesterday. No one was hurt.

A pall of smoke more than 1,000ft high could be seen for miles and flames leapt hundreds of feet. It took 140 firemen four hours to control the blaze.

The warehouse at Europe's biggest army stores depot held textiles, bedding, vehicle batteries and some other technical equipment. The base does not hold ammunition, other than small arms rounds for use in its own defence. Lieutenant-Colonel Michael Chilcott said "explosions" heard by local people were the sound of the roof crashing in or containers bursting in the intense heat.

Part of a bronze Russian cannon which is used for casting Victoria Crosses is kept at the depot, but was well away from the fire.

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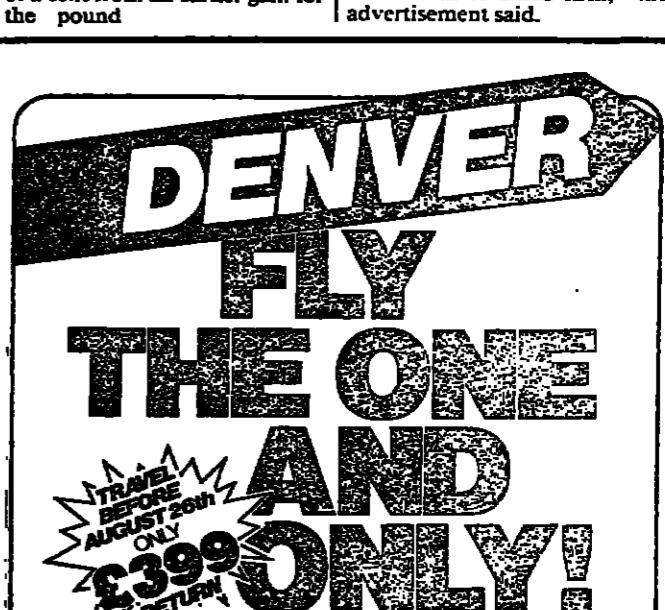
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Kathy Jordan: First services praised

Bitter-sweet day as Jordan beats Lloyd

By Rupert Morris

It was a bitter-sweet day at Wimbledon yesterday as Chris Lloyd, three times women's champion, and everyone's favourite daughter-in-law, was knocked out in the third round by the unseeded Kathy Jordan.

The defeat of Mrs Lloyd, formerly Miss Everett until her marriage to the British Davis Cup player John Lloyd, overshadowed everything else on a day when the weather forecasters were confounded and more than 32,000 spectators enjoyed almost a full day's entertainment.

Mrs Lloyd, however, with

the modesty that has endeared her to the Wimbledon public, refused to make any excuses. She said that her opponent had played great tennis and complimented her on the quality of her first service.

Mrs Jordan said afterwards: "I am a little bit surprised that I won the first set so easily. I wasn't surprised to be down four games to love in the second set, but I just wanted to hang in there and not go into the third set without winning any games in the second".

What Mrs Jordan did not

Strikers vote to prolong dispute

By David Felton

The chances of an early breakthrough in the dispute which has halted the *Financial Times* for more than three weeks appeared remote last night after the 270 strikers voted to stay out for at least another week.

Members of the National Graphical Association (NGA) involved in the machine-room dispute, which has cost the newspaper nearly £3m, were said to be solid behind their union officials. They have launched a dispute fund among union members in other Fleet Street offices.

Mr George Jerrom, NGA national officer, said his members had been angered by a letter from the company which alleged that the association had "broken the bounds set by responsible collective bargaining and allowed it to degenerate to one of irresponsibility and potential destruction of hundreds of other jobs".

Mr Len Murray, TUC general secretary, postponed a visit to a conference in Oslo to stay in touch with the crisis. He is understood to have met the paper's senior executives.

The leading union personalities in the dispute are due to spend the weekend at a union retirement centre discussing plans for a merger between the NGA and the other main print union, Soga '82. There was no suggestion last night that the meeting in Sussex would form a platform for moves to settle the dispute.

AMERICAN EXPRESS

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Yorkshire Ripper's wife joins protest at former police chief's memoirs

By Kenneth Gossling

Mrs Sonia Szurma-Sutcliffe, the wife of the Yorkshire Ripper, yesterday joined in the mounting protest over the publication in a Sunday newspaper, beginning this weekend, of the memoirs of Mr Ronald Gregory, former chief constable of West Yorkshire, who led the hunt for Peter Sutcliffe.

The Press Council will also consider the matter, probably next month.

Mrs Szurma-Sutcliffe said she was bitterly opposed to anyone making money out of her husband's crimes. In a statement through her solicitor she said: "I am against the principle of anyone making money out of this I never have and never want to gain any financial benefit and I do not see why anyone should."

Although it was reported yesterday that Mr Gregory was to receive £40,000 from *The Mail on Sunday* for the three-part serialization, it was believed last night that the figure is nearer £50,000.

Journalists at *The Mail on Sunday* yesterday rejected an appeal by Mr Jacob Ecclestone, deputy general secretary of the National Union of Journalists, not to "handle or promote any material" by or on behalf of Mr Gregory.



Mrs Szurma-Sutcliffe:
Matter of principle

It was said, on behalf of Mr Stewart Steven, the editor: "There is no round figure available. He is being paid as a consultant."

The newspaper stood by a statement on Thursday by Mr Steven that the story it is to publish is about an investigation, and what went wrong during the course of it, rather than a salacious story of brutal murders.

Mr Gregory, who lives in Wakefield, was said to have gone away yesterday.

Mrs Doreen Hill, mother of the Ripper's last victim, has

written to the Home Secretary and to the Press Council asking Mr Gregory of "cashing in" on her daughter's death.

Mr Kenneth Morgan, the council's director, said the letter had been received and its contents together with the general issue would be considered by the council's complaints committee.

The matter will present the committee with a difficulty since the council's guidelines specifically refer to the payment of "blood money" to associates and relatives of known criminals, not to people otherwise having a connexion, professional or otherwise, with a crime.

Solicitors acting for Mrs Hill are considering suing Mr Gregory and the West Yorkshire police for alleged negligence and incompetence in the search for the killer if anything is published. They have told her there are no legal grounds for seeking an injunction to prevent the planned publication tomorrow.

In a question in the European Parliament next week, Dr Harry Seal, European MP for Yorkshire West, will call for new laws to stop former public employees profiting from information gained in their jobs.

Welsh-only minutes fox councillor

By Tim Jones

The dispute arose after members of Pwyskennadraeth Community Council voted by a narrow margin to discontinue its practice of supplying Mr Alfred Ciano with English language translations of the minutes. After the decision Mr Ciano and Mrs Megan Francis, the council's vice-chairman, walked out.

Mr Ciano, a Londoner who has lived in the village for 10 years, said yesterday: "I am very hurt by this decision

because I have made every effort to learn Welsh.

"I am active in local community projects and frequently begin meetings in the Welsh language. Unfortunately my command of the language is not yet sufficient to read the advanced Welsh in which the minutes are presented."

Dr Ieuan Parri, explained that as the council's official language was Welsh it had made a concession to Mr Ciano when he became a member four years ago.

Mrs Szurma-Sutcliffe: Matter of principle

Yard tries to verify 'Vorticist' paintings

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

The Art and Antiques Squad at Scotland Yard is investigating the background to a group of drawings and paintings which appear to be fakes and nearly fooled Sotheby's and Christie's. They are by Vorticist artists, Britain's avant garde version of Cubism which had its heyday around 1912.

Christie's had intended to hold an auction of Vorticist drawings and paintings next week. The sale had been advertised but it was cancelled before the catalogue was printed. Sotheby's had two drawings in its sale on May 25 which appear to come from a similar source and were withdrawn before the auction.

Mr Francis Farmer, of Christie's, said yesterday that a vendor from the provinces had

Lines for the Poet Laureate

The Poet Laureate had a train named after him yesterday. At St Pancras Station in London, a red plaque on electric locomotive 86229 which read "Sir John Betjeman" was unveiled.

Sir Peter Parker, chairman of British Rail, said Sir John's interest in trains and in the British heritage had made him a keeper of the nation's conscience. He quoted some of the poet's lines: "The Old Great Western makes The Old Great Western spin."

One painting was examined most carefully; when unrolled it smelt strongly of size; a water-based paint had been used on canvas which seemed surprising; the paint, though discoloured on the surface, did not appear to have absorbed any water.

A special "Betjeman Pullman" with tickets costing £10, travelled to Bedford and back to mark the occasion.

After the ceremony the poet's son, Paul, a music teacher in New York, said that his father had always been very interested in trains and travelled by them whenever he could. "He liked the small lines which went from country stations". Sir John, who was in a wheelchair, was not well enough to make a speech.

One painting was examined most carefully; when unrolled it smelt strongly of size; a water-based paint had been used on canvas which seemed surprising; the paint, though discoloured on the surface, did not appear to have absorbed any water.

The prosecution said he had been advised by the Director of Public Prosecutions to drop the case.

Mr Martin, now a British citizen living in the Bahamas, said: "I hope this gift will encourage others to play their part in making Oxford a centre of excellence in the study of management relevant to people's lives everywhere."

Rhodes scholar's £3m for management centre

By Lucy Hedges, Education Correspondent

A former Rhodes scholar is giving more than £3m to the Oxford Centre for Management Studies during the next few years. In return the centre will be renamed Templeton College after his parents.

Mr John M. Templeton, who was a Rhodes scholar at Balliol, is making an unrestricted gift of £1.3m in the next year. He will give a further £2m so long as the centre continues to develop. He is president of the Templeton Group of investment trusts.

The centre, set up in 1965, has gained an international reputation for innovative approaches to management education. It undertakes almost all the management teaching at Oxford University.

The centre is looking for more gifts with which to build a

Building for Edinburgh tattoo must be quieter

Miss Elizabeth Webster (right) yesterday won her court battle to stop noisy preparations for next year's Edinburgh military tattoo on the tarmac esplanade, but preparations for this year's tattoo, which takes place in August, will go ahead.

The judge also ruled that a Scotswoman's flat was still her castle, although he said an English judge had suggested that an Englishman's home was no longer his castle.

Lord Stott at the Court of Session in Edinburgh granted interdict to Miss Webster, aged 25, a secretary, whose top flat at 14 Ramsay Garden, Edinburgh, is at the corner of the castle esplanade.

Under the court order the tattoo policy committee is banned from preparing the event in such a manner as to cause noise nuisance. The judge said that evidence had left him in no doubt that in the interests of Edinburgh and of Scotland as a whole it would be desirable that the tattoo should be allowed to continue.



Kipling's walled garden saved

Villagers at Rottingdean, near Brighton, have raised £50,000 to buy the walled garden of Rudyard Kipling's former home, the Elms, to prevent it being developed for housing.

Rottingdean Preservation Society began campaigning two years ago when a property company applied for planning permission to build seven houses on the site.

Computer curb

The Data Protection Bill, which fell when the last Parliament was dissolved, will be reintroduced. It gives people the right to see and change some, but not all, information about them stored on computers.

Girl, 8, tells of moment she was shot



By David Hewson
Emma Breen, the Surrey girl aged eight who was hit in the leg by a bullet as she stood in her school playground, yesterday described the moment she was shot.

She said as she sat in hospital: "I felt as if something had smacked me very hard and I fell over. I thought that a stone had come up and hit me. It still stings a bit but I feel all right now."

She was taken to Frimley Park Hospital with what was thought to be a superficial cut. It was only when she was taken back the next evening that an X-ray showed the bullet.

Surry police confirmed yesterday that it was a nine millimetre bullet of the type they were using for handgun practice.

The girl, who was shot at Camberley by what is thought to have been a stray round from a range near Pirbright, a mile away was sitting in a wheelchair yesterday recovering after surgeons removed the bullet.

Mrs Ann Burn, the head teacher of the school said that she had banned pupils from playing in the field where Emma Breen was hit. "We moved the children away from playing in the field. I did not allow them back in the grounds until the police had told me that all firing on the ranges had been banned."

Mr John Breen, aged 35, the girl's father, said that he supported the decision by the



Mr John Breen: Welcomed closure of ranges.

Ministry of Defence to ban firing on all ranges throughout the United Kingdom pending a full investigation into the incident.

There is something amiss that two incidents of this nature can happen within the space of months. Until they find out what is going on there must be no more firing on the ranges."

Mrs Jenny Breen, the girl's mother, said: "I am very surprised that something like this could happen while she was at school. I am just relieved that she is all right and I do not think it is the sort of thing that could happen again."

Mr Brian Hayes, the chief constable of Surrey, has called for an investigation, which is being carried out by Detective Superintendent Raymond Bennett of the Hampshire force.

Jury sees death range

The jury hearing evidence at the inquest on Mrs Sheila Wenham, aged 50, of Pine Wood, Sunbury, who died after being hit in the head by a stray bullet on April 20, yesterday visited the Pirbright firing range where the incident happened.

They were told that the range was being used that day by the Third Bn, The Parachute Regiment. Lt William Buckley, who had overall responsibility for the firing, said that it would be difficult to hit the hillock if one was firing straight down the field firing range.

Mrs Wenham was hit on Chair Hill and the officer said:

"It was one of the features which marked where the edge of the danger area was. Nothing was fired in the direction of Chair Hill and when targets were set up I had in mind the safety areas."

He added that he did not think the flag on the hillock could have been mistaken for one of those which marked the arc of fire on the range.

Asked by the coroner about strikes on trees in the closed battle area where live ammunition should not be used, he said they had not been caused by any of his soldiers.

Two widows battered to death in their flats

From Craig Seton,
Plymouth

Eighty detectives and more than 100 uniformed police officers are looking for a killer who battered to death two elderly widows as they sat in their armchairs in separate flats at a house in Plymouth.

The police described the killing of Mrs Gwendoline Lloyd and Mrs Olive Spy, both aged about 80, as extremely vicious and cold-blooded.

The Edwardian terraced house, in the Plymouth bedsitting room area, had not been broken into and nothing appeared to have been stolen. Detectives are considering the possibility that the killer might have been known to the two women.

A football pools collector raised the alarm on Thursday night after seeing one of the bodies. The police found both women with severe head injuries inflicted by repeated blows from a blunt instrument.

The last person to see the women alive was a home hairdresser who had called to see Mrs Lloyd at midday.

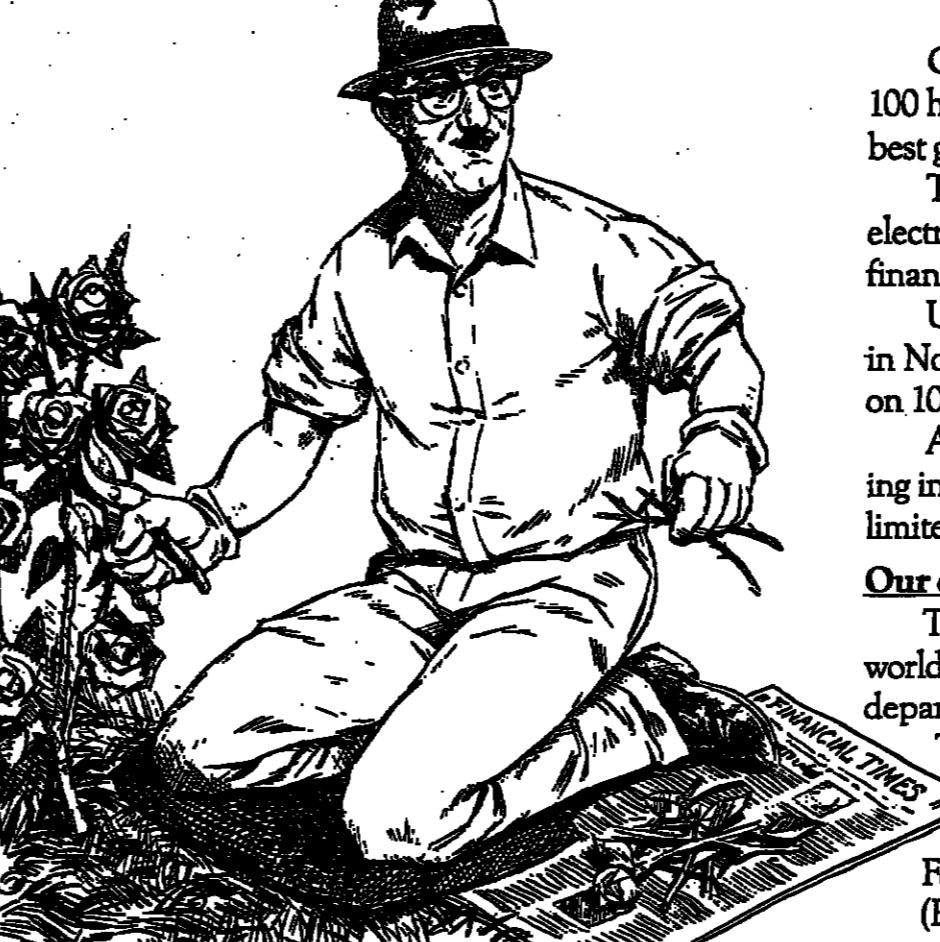
The police are making house-to-house inquiries and have spoken to pupils at Plymouth College, a private school immediately opposite the house, in Ford Park Road.

Mrs Spy owned the house, which she shared with her friend Mrs Lloyd. Mrs Spy, who lived on the upstairs flat, was nearly blind and was badly crippled by arthritis. Like Mrs Lloyd, she had a serious heart condition.

Neighbours said the women rarely went out and would never have opened the door to a stranger. Both women received meals on wheels. Even their friends had to knock or ring the doorbell a specified number of times to be allowed in.

Mrs Janet Fookes Conservative MP for Plymouth Drake, in whose constituency the murders took place, yesterday visited police headquarters in Plymouth.

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Renewed pledge on preserving strong NHS

From Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent, Harrogate

Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, said yesterday that the Government had no intention of dismantling the National Health Service.

"A strong health service funded mainly from taxation will remain the backbone of health care in this country", he told the annual conference in Harrogate of the National Association of Health Authorities in England and Wales.

The NHS was absolutely indispensable to the provision of health care in Britain, and the Government's commitment to it was clear and unequivocal.

"There has been a great deal of talk about hidden manifestos and the threat of an attack on the welfare state. That is simply not true", Mr Fowler said. Much of the political debate during the election campaign had been "senseless, damaging and unnecessary".

It was the first important health conference to be addressed by Mr Fowler since the election, but he failed to reassure many health authority administrators and chairmen on the Government's intentions towards the NHS.

His statement did little to convince some of the 500 delegates that the Government had no intention of changing to a different system of financing, in spite of his categorical denial.

A member of Oxfordshire Regional Health Authority, which has gone further than most in trying to cut services to

£25,000 for attack by horse

Ranching of salmon warning

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

The Atlantic Salmon Trust is concerned at the possibility of Pacific pink salmon being introduced to British rivers.

Writing in today's issue of *The Field*, Mr Gerry Hadoke, the trust's director, says that the past history of introducing new species has not been happy or inspiring.

Fungus from dead pink salmon eggs might well infect Atlantic salmon eggs, which are laid later, if both species inhabit the same river, he says. Norwegian experience has shown that the homing ability of Pacific salmon is erratic.

The purpose of introducing pink salmon would be to reduce imports, at present 75 per cent of all the salmon landed.

"What must concern the Atlantic salmon conservationists is the thought that, in spite of apparently declining runs in our rivers, the ministry should consider allocating funds to develop other species which cannot even be considered a similar high-quality product," Mr Hadoke writes.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food insisted yesterday that it was merely considering ocean ranching.

Old masters deal puts trader in jail

A market trader who admitted handling seven old masters valued at £10,000, which were part of the proceeds of a £750,000 burglary, was jailed by the Inner London Crown Court yesterday.

The paintings were stolen from the home in Chelsea of Sir Ivan Chancery, former chairman of Christie's, last August and were traced to Donald McLean, aged 54, of Deventer Crescent, East Dulwich, four months later.

Mr McLean, who said that he was offered the paintings for £15,000 and told he could sell them for £40,000, was sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment of which nine months were suspended.

Fur protest

Fourteen people arrested outside the Savoy on Thursday night during a demonstration against the Fur Traders' annual dinner were remanded on bail until July 22 by Bow Street Magistrates yesterday.

Woman freed

Mrs Janet Mills, aged 22, from Exeter, was released from Pucklechurch remand centre, Avon, yesterday with a two-week cut in her sentence for shoplifting so that she could give birth to her baby outside.

Gunpowder trial

A bohemian at Portsmouth naval base, Paul James, aged 22, of Leigh Park, was sent for trial on charges of manufacturing and storing gunpowder, having a pistol without a certificate and stealing from the base.

Rider killed

Staff Sergeant Ray Woosley, aged 32, a member of the Army's motor cycling team, was killed in a collision at the Welsh international two-day trials event near Abereiddy, Powys, on Thursday.

Arrest inquiry

The Procurator Fiscal for Edinburgh is investigating the case of Mr Anthony Anita, aged 38, who was admitted to Western General Hospital with injuries to his heart, pancreas and face shortly after being struck on Sunday. Five police officers were also treated.

Woman burnt

Safety experts yesterday were investigating an explosion at the Haley Weller fireworks factory at Draycot, near Derby, in which Mrs Mavis Dobson, aged 51, suffered 70 per cent burns. Her condition was said to be poor.

Custody death

Mr James Bateman, aged 54, of Darwen Drive, Cambridge who was detained by Parkside police on a charge of drunkenness on Thursday, was later found to have died in hospital, where he was found to be dead on arrival.

Police muddle

Magistrates rejected an application by Torbay police social club for a drinks extension after the police licensing department objected on the grounds of insufficient information.

'Zero' abandons struggle for support against Nicaragua

San José, Costa Rica (AFP) - Señor Eden Pastora, a former Sandinista hero who turned against the regime in Managua, has suspended his fight against the Nicaraguan army because of a lack of arms, food or money to supply his forces - and because of the West's apparent failure to support him.

His decision to suspend a struggle begun on April 8 also appears to reflect his group's isolation, which comes partly from his refusal to form an alliance of circumstance with the right-wingers who are also fighting the Sandinistas.

"The pernicious forces of the far right are seeking a return to the past", he said this week in a radio message to his forces, adding that the right-wing supporters of General Anastasio Somoza, the deposed former dictator, were trying to block his efforts in southern Nicaragua.

His men were also facing "Cuban intervention forces", Señor Pastora said, adding that Western aid had not been forthcoming, thus, he added, "we must pause and ponder the situation, to find the necessary economic resources for the development of the war, and for the future of armed insurrection".

Señor Pastora, also known as Commander Zero, gained fame for his fight against the Somocistas, which ended with his rush on the national palace in April, 1978.

But he became unhappy with what he viewed as an increasing effort by the new left-wing Government to restrict freedoms, and gave up his post as deputy defence minister in July, 1981.

In September, 1982, he formed the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance with two other Sandinista dissidents, Señor Alfonso Robelo and Señor Fernando Chamorro. An Army communiqué said the rebels killed 30 people, including civilians, in the attack on the Las Guaras bridge on the road between the towns of San Martín and Suchitoto.

That created a second anti-

Rios Montt rule totters

Guatemala City (NYT) - President Efraín Rios Montt of Guatemala appears to be facing his most serious political challenge since he won power in a coup 15 months ago.

According to politicians, diplomats and church and business leaders interviewed here recently, the key issue is Brigadier-General Rios Montt's promise to restore authentic democracy that he made after annulling the results of national elections in March 1982. He did so on the ground that the voting had been fraudulent.

In the last few weeks, pressure has mounted on the President to keep his promise, with both an Army general and Church leaders publicly petitioning him to get the military out of government. The petitioners are also demanding the election of an assembly to draft a new constitution for his nation, which has known dictatorship for most of its history.

At the same time, the Rios Montt Government continues to be challenged by a loosely unified guerrilla movement.

The calls for a return to civilian rule, while providing a unifying theme for opponents of General Rios Montt, mask the motives of a variety of special interests from extreme left to right, according to Guatemalans and foreign diplomats here.

Economic, social and religious tensions are all playing a part, so is the personality of the President, an evangelical Christian who has been described as

part nationalist, part missionary, part soldier, part reformer, flamboyant and pious at the same time.

All the political parties are against him, the merchants, professionals and farmers oppose him, he has alienated the church, and this Army is divided, Señor Mario Sandoval Alarcón, head of the militarily far-right National Liberation Movement, said in an interview here.

If he does not call elections in the next two or three weeks he will be finished, according to Señor Sandoval, a former presidential candidate whose party is widely believed to be among those with the most to gain if President Rios Montt were to fall from power.

The capital has been so abuzz with rumours of a coup that the chief of the Guatemalan general staff, General Héctor Mario López Fuentes, recently issued a public statement saying that no one in the Army was thinking of overthrowing the Government.

Although the Kremlin has maintained its silence on the Pope's visit to Poland, the Polish question is uppermost in Soviet thinking. *Pravda* said



Back to jail: Henry Lucas leaving court in Texas yesterday

Mother-killer confesses to 100 more murders

Montague, Texas (Reuters) - Police are hunting for bodies in several US states after a former mental patient claimed he had killed about 100 women, mostly runaways and hitch-hikers.

Henry Lee Lucas, aged 46, who was freed from a mental institution in 1975 after 15 years' detention for killing his mother, made the claim after he was accused in court on Tuesday of murdering his woman employer.

A court official said that police in several states were "following up leads that arose from the statements of Lucas as to where a body may be. There are some diggings going on."

He said officials had dis-

Greeks will go ahead with Balkan summit

From Mario Modiano, Athens

The Greek Government is making plans for a meeting in Athens later this year of all Balkan countries, except Albania, to discuss, among other things, proposals for the creation of a nuclear-free zone in the Balkans.

The meeting, initially at the level of experts, was proposed by Mr Andreas Papandreou, the Greek Prime Minister, in a letter to the leaders of the other five Balkan countries on May 17. He suggested that the agenda should be agreed through diplomatic channels. All the replies have now reached Athens.

Albania rejected the offer, arguing that so long as the other Balkan states belonged to military blocks the plan was not feasible. Bulgaria and Romania agreed fully with the spirit of the invitation and the procedure which eventually provides for a summit meeting of Balkan leaders within 12 to 18 months to sign an agreement.

Turkey said it supported any initiative for Balkan cooperation and peace, but reserved its full reply until it saw the full agenda for the meeting. Yugoslavia declared it endorsed efforts to promote Balkan cooperation and saw the proposal for a nuclear-free zone in this context, as well as in the context of Yugoslavia's overall foreign policy, as a useful initiative - provided the Balkans could also be protected from outside nuclear attack.

Mr Papandreou, a champion of the cause of nuclear disarmament, has repeatedly said that even if there is no agreement among the Balkan states his Socialist Government would expel all nuclear warheads stockpiled in Greece under Nato plans and American control.

Greece and Turkey are the only Balkan countries known to have such stockpiles, although Bulgaria is said to have launching capabilities.

Russia rallies East block to close ranks on policy

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Pravda yesterday called for closer cohesion and unity within the Soviet block, strengthening speculation that the Warsaw Pact is preparing a "serious miscalculation".

In a front-page leading article, *Pravda* referred to President Andropov's remarks at the recent Central Committee plenum on the need for "cohesion within the Socialist community". The paper said that should be an exchange of views between the Warsaw Pact states, leading to "mutual enrichment".

Western diplomats said the Warsaw Pact countries would have to coordinate their policies on a range of issues, including the impact of the Pope's visit to Poland.

Although the Kremlin has maintained its silence on the Pope's visit to Poland, the Polish question is uppermost in Soviet thinking. *Pravda* said

that Communist parties which did not adhere strictly to Marxism-Leninism and strengthening their links with the masses tended to make a "serious miscalculation".

At a session of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation in Moscow yesterday, Mr Vitaly Vorotnikov was named Prime Minister of the Russian Federation, replacing Mr Mikail Solomontsev, who became chairman of the party control commission at the plenum.

Mr Vorotnikov, who is 57, is an Andropov supporter and was Deputy Prime Minister of the Russian Federation until he was sent as ambassador to Cuba in 1979. Last year Mr Vorotnikov was recalled to the Soviet Union to spearhead Mr Andropov's anti-corruption campaign in the Black Sea town of Krasnodar. He became a candidate member of the Politburo

PARLIAMENT June 24 1983

Parkinson outlines role of government in promoting industrial expansion

QUEEN'S SPEECH

competition in the economy. He was heartened by the warm response to the merger from many people in all sections of industry.

The decision by General Motors to invest £70m in their Bedford commercial vehicle operation at Luton, Bedfordshire was a further step in that direction.

The arrangements, which had been discussed with the Government, were an example of the basis on which collaboration with Japan could be mutual benefit.

The role of government and his department was to ensure that industry was in a position to benefit from the upturn and that unemployment was reduced in the private sector, and his ambition had been well summarised in Thursday's leader in *The Times* which said:

"If Britain's economic performance is to take advantage of the next two or three years' growth in world output it needs to be reinvigorated by legislation to break down rigidities and monopolies, whether they exist in the public sector, in trade union practices in business, in taxation and in administration."

In this country (he said) we have accumulated a sorry collection of what *The Times* calls rigidities. One such rigidity which has been so damaging to our industrial performance is the division between those who own our companies, those who manage them and others who work in them.

Another had been the division between the two sides of industry, management and other employees. In many competitor nations those two sides did not exist, both were working unambiguously on the same side for the same goals.

The Government had spread ownership of industry more widely, had encouraged share ownership in private industry and made employee ownership schemes an essential part of its privatization programme. He was pleased to carry that work much further.

In doing so (he said) I am aware of battling against decades of grievous harm done to our industries by the mythology of the Labour Party. An essential part of every Labour victory, and if they carry on they are going to be few, I think to prey on policies and in division, to perpetuate class conflict in industry where none need have

existed and to set management and other employees against each other.

The damage to industrial performance from Labour's attitude over the years was incalculable. The loss of markets and so of jobs had been immense.

The Government's emphasis on removing companies from state ownership wherever possible was

the right way to go, he said, and that is what he had done.

He welcomed the more effective

cooperation between trade and industry and hoped this move would be extended because there had been lack of coordination in some areas of government activity, particularly in overseas sales and procurement.

The Government had a major role to play in coordinating the interests of business and industry. The banking and insurance sectors were important here. There was a whole apparatus of export trading to be considered. Some successes in recent years gave him encouragement.

Mr Norman Gedman (Greenock and Port Glasgow, Lab), in a maiden speech, said that as a former shipwright he could say that they were some of the finest shipbuilding skills in the world.

That was how the Government had been able to get along with the shipbuilding industry. But the workers faced severe problems when it came to getting the job cuts of 2,100 within the next year the reason was that no one was to blame, economic and social factors were all playing a part, so it was the personality of the President, an evangelical Christian who has been described as

substantial oil revenues or be one of the world's largest oil producers.

He welcomed the more effective

cooperation between trade and industry and hoped this move would be extended because there had been lack of coordination in some areas of government activity.

They must maintain the momentum of building up the car industry.

He was delighted that overtime and Saturday working was now in use in the car industry.

Privatization - getting the state off people's backs - was a

recipe for certain success, but he hoped that in any denationalisation process the average working man

was given the opportunity to take part in the investment and

management of the company denationalised. He looks forward

ultimately to the replacement of the monopoly by stock shops in the high streets of this country.

Mr Richard Douglas (Dunfermline West, Lab) said the best miners were miners' sons. People could not be forced to go down the pit on the basis of an interpretation of the future of that industry in narrow labour sheet terms. The sociology of mining communities was an important consideration.

He hoped that British Telecom would not become a political football. It was

Eagleburger claims US policy is helping to change South Africa

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

Reaffirming the US policy of "constructive engagement" towards South Africa, a senior Administration official has rejected calls for American companies to divest themselves of holdings in that country and has criticized attempts by Congress to increase economic pressure on the white-ruled republic.

While denouncing apartheid as "morally wrong", Mr Lawrence Eagleburger, Under-Secretary of State for Political Affairs, predicted that South Africa's system of racial segregation would eventually crumble and it was crucial for the US to ensure the change was peaceful rather than violent.

Mr Eagleburger had words of cautious praise for the changes which have taken place in South Africa recently, noting that the constitutional proposals now being considered represented "the first step towards extending national political rights beyond the white minority".

Mr Eagleburger's speech on Thursday night was the Administration's most comprehensive statement on southern Africa in two years. The speech contained no new initiatives, but was rather an attempt to show that American policy - which has been widely criticized as being "soft" on apartheid - was helping to accelerate the process of change.

US sources have been saying privately that an agreement on a Cuban troop withdrawal is near. However, they have expressed

fears that South Africa may not, largely for domestic political reasons, be able to agree to a similar pull-back from Namibia.

Supremacist Guilty: Eugene Terre Blanche, leader of an ultra-right white supremacists group, was convicted in Johannesburg yesterday of illegally possessing arms and ammunition.

Mr Terre Blanche and a former member of the Afrikaner Weerstandsbewegung (Afrikaner resistance movement) had pleaded not guilty to the charges, claiming left-wingers had planted the weapons to frame the group.

Sentencing was expected later after arguments in mitigation.

Mr E D Wythe, the regional magistrate of the Klerksdorp local court near Johannesburg, rejected the claim. He said Mr Terre Blanche and the other defendant, Mr Jacob Daniel Viljeon, would have informed police if the weapons had indeed been planted.

The men were found guilty of illegally possessing an AK-47 assault rifle, 362 rounds of ammunition and a 22-calibre revolver.

Mr Viljeon and two other former group members were convicted earlier this month of separate charges under South Africa's terrorism laws and sentenced to 15 years in prison.

Despite reports that he would be removed from his post, and a last-minute attempt to force him to reconsider, the head of the Buenos Aires province police went ahead with a violently-worded speech on Thursday. He delivered an open challenge to the courts which have brought charges against his officers.

General Fernando Ezequiel

Verplaetse, the active service Army officer who heads the provincial police, was reacting to the latest court moves against three of his officers, accused of murdering two men, Señor Osvaldo Cambiasso and Señor Eduardo Pereira Rossi, on May 14 this year.

A local judge ordered the arrest of the policemen after hearing evidence that both

victims had been kidnapped, possibly tortured, and shot.

Early on Thursday, Buenos Aires was full of rumours that General Verplaetse would be forced to resign. The presidential spokesman was forced to deny the impending resignation of General Llamil Reston, the Interior Minister.

It was also revealed that a senior Interior Ministry official was dispatched by helicopter to the provincial capital of La Plata, where General Verplaetse was due to deliver his speech, in an unsuccessful last-minute attempt to get him to moderate his words.

General Verplaetse described the three arrested officers as "three brave young men from our ranks".



Campaign trial: Signor Ciriaco De Mita, secretary of the Italian Christian Democratic Party, responding to cheers at the end of a speech in Genoa. Voting begins tomorrow. Campaign scandals, page 8.

Buenos Aires police chief challenges courts

From Andrew Thompson, Buenos Aires

Air chief tells of sabotage suspicion

From Stephen Taylor, Harare

The officer who headed the Zimbabwe Air Force board of inquiry into the Thornhill sabotage said in the high court here yesterday that he had been very suspicious of an officer whose evidence to the board did not stand up to scrutiny and who could not properly account for himself.

Air Commodore Philip Pile, the second accused and the last to give evidence in the continuing trial of six officers charged with complicity in the sabotage, said he had also considered recommending that three officers be court martialled because of gross security derelictions at the base just before the sabotage.

Air Commodore Pile, aged 43, was born in London and having joined the Air Force here in 1956, was appointed air adviser at the Zimbabwe High Commission in London for a year after independence.

In evidence on Thursday he denied that the board had, as the state asserts, been rigged to divert attention from those responsible. It had been appointed by Air Marshal Norman Walsh, then ZAF Commander, on the day of the sabotage, July 25, to include an army observer and had passed all evidence to the police.

It never completed its deliberations because he and another member, Wing Commander Peter Bricco, who is also in the dock, had been arrested.

Air Commodore Pile said the board had heard evidence from an Air Lieutenant Moyo who was absent from duty for an hour and a half on the day of the sabotage, although he was station duty officer. Air Lieutenant Moyo had told the board that the previous day he and another officer had taken

civilians into the technical area containing eight Hawk Hunters and four Hawk fighters.

Yesterday Air Commodore Pile said that Air Lieutenant Moyo was recalled "to clear up certain suspicious matters"; but he had been very evasive. "We trapped him on many occasions on answers which were patently untrue", Air Commodore Pile said.

He identified a document produced in court as a list of suspects supplied to the board by another accused, Air Lieutenant Barrington Lloyd, who was a security officer at the base. The seven names, of five whites and two blacks, included those of two other accused - Wing Commander John Cox, who was said by Air Lieutenant Lloyd to be "untruthful and devious" and Air Lieutenant Neville Weier, who had undergone "a change of attitude".

Also named was Squadron Leader John Neate, the chief prosecution witness in the trial, because "the station officer is not happy with him".

Air Commodore Pile said that before his arrest he had been on the verge of warning Air Lieutenant Lloyd that he would recommend that he be court martialled because of security lapses at Thornhill. But he had no reason to suspect that Air Lieutenant Lloyd was involved in the sabotage.

He had also been considering recommending that Group Captain David Jones, then station commander, and Squadron Leader Neate also be court martialled.

Change at top: Zimbabwe's Acting Chief Justice Leo Baran, aged 66, will retire in September for health reasons, the Government announced. Reuter reports.

Hongkong tombstones torn down

From Richard Hughes
Hongkong

Hongkong has been suddenly confronted with a strange outbreak of vandalism in some of its 10 public cemeteries. For the first time gates are being closed reluctantly at 7pm.

By Chinese tradition only wicked ghosts would destroy gravestones - 80 of which were dragged down one night in the Colonial Cemetery, while inexplicable damage has been reported in other public cemeteries.

The Urban Services Department, which is responsible for control of the cemeteries, has written to the known addresses of relatives of some of the deceased whose graves were despoiled, but has received no response so far - although the family names are clear on most of the ruins.

Many of the desecrated graves date back to pre-war days and it is difficult to contact relatives. Those relatives, however, must pay for restoring the graves.

"The Government will not pay," a government official said. "Under law, the Government is not liable for compensation or cost in such cases."

Anyway - except in remote cemeteries outside the city which are too rambling to be enclosed - the urban cemeteries will now be locked up against nocturnal visits by relatives after sunset.

Asean asks Vietnam to pull back

From Neil Kelly
Bangkok

The sixteenth annual meeting of foreign ministers of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) which opened here yesterday is at the centre of extensive diplomatic activity to end the conflict in Cambodia.

That issue is the main concern of the ministers from Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia and the Philippines, and will dominate their discussions next week with counterparts from Western nations and Japan.

The ministers supported a Thai proposal that Vietnam should move its forces 20 miles back from the Thai-Cambodian border. Air Chief Marshal Siddhi Sawasdi, the Thai Foreign Minister, said the pull-back would lessen the threat to Thailand and would be more meaningful than Vietnam's so-called partial troop withdrawal.

The five ministers admit that they are not optimistic about obtaining a favourable response from Hanoi. Air Chief Marshal Siddhi dispelled any hope that there had been some progress towards a settlement in Cambodia. He said his talks with Mr Nguyen Co Thach, Vietnam's Foreign Minister, two weeks ago had got nowhere.

"The Government will not pay," a government official said. "Under law, the Government is not liable for compensation or cost in such cases."

The Thai minister said that the basis of ASEAN policy was Vietnam's withdrawal followed by free elections for Cambodia and its restoration as a sovereign, independent and non-aligned nation.

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scription rolls for the Proof Edition are closed permanently in July 1984. Thereafter, this edition will never be made available again - anywhere in the world.

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EEC and America leave farm gate open

From Bailey Morris
Washington

US and European negotiators have concluded six months of difficult agricultural negotiations without resolving fundamental differences but have left the door open for a possible solution.

Officials from both sides agreed in Washington on Thursday to set up an informal working group on the issue of agricultural subsidies which brought them close to a trade war.

The bilateral working group will review government subsidies and other forms of agricultural assistance with the aim of clarifying trade moves to prevent future confrontations.

Declaring themselves "moderately satisfied", officials from both sides said the first phase of the talks had gone as far as possible in resolving any of the fundamental complaints.

Privately, officials said they had found a face-saving way of preventing an outbreak of hostilities without resolving any of the fundamental complaints.

The European Community gave little in response to US demands that the EEC begin dismantling export subsidies contained in its common agricultural policy (CAP).

European negotiators led by M Claude Villain, the EEC's director-general for agriculture, said substantive changes in the CAP were unlikely



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THE ARTS

Radio

Vicious circles

Out of the silence came a voice graphically describing a gory pageant of men with unspeakable hideous wounds. The orator suggested a politician, maybe a general, although there was possibly a little too much loathing in the tone for it to have been either. It was, in the event, the voice of a teacher reading from an eye-witness account of the horrors of the First World War.

This was how Graham Reid elegantly began his disturbing play *Hidden Curriculum* (Monday, Radio 4 - a BBC/Lyric Theatre, Belfast, co-production directed by Leon Rubin and produced by Robert Cooper). The play's extreme powerlessness came, in part, from what its author chose not to tell us; from the latent, unspoken terrors that underscored everything, however ghoulish, that was said.

The teacher, Tony Cairns (played with moving sincerity by Denys Hawthorne), set his students their homework: a report on Wilfred Owen's war poem "Dulce et Decorum est", in which the poet denounced as a lie the adage that it is sweet and glorious to die for one's country. Although unremarked upon, the choice of poem was particularly apt, for the character was head of English in a Protestant school in Belfast.

Of the children he taught, we heard nothing (not even a classroom murmur) but through the squabbles and petty wranglings of the staffroom, and through the cynical observations of two former pupils involved on the fringe of Belfast's violence, we gradually gained a picture of Tony Cairns's character. At the same time, Cairns was learning something about the brutal, bigoted world beyond the school-gates, where "comprehension and the war poets count for nothing". And as he did so, we witnessed his painful realization that the horrific things done in that world were partly the result of the education system which he served.

There is no easy formula for writing about vast and complex issues like the Irish problem. The only effective way, perhaps, is to focus on one incident - to examine the needlework, as it were, rather than the acres of tapestry. This Graham Reid did by having his central character discover that one of his best behaved and most promising former pupils was serving a life prison sentence for sectarian murders.

His response to this - an offer of help and friendship to the boy's parents - were contemptuously rejected, as were his attempts to show his colleagues how inadequately they were preparing pupils to face the problems of their society.

In the classroom once more, he picked up his books of war-poetry able to cope with and relate to only those manifestations of war that are - however applicable to the present - history rather than current affairs. His voice drifted out into the silence of the haunted classroom: "These are the damned circles Dante tried, terrible in helplessness."

A far less plausible, but equally vicious circle was to be found in Sam Shepard's *True West* (Thursday, Radio 3, directed by Peter King). Austin, an aspiring Hollywood screenwriter, was suddenly confronted by the uncomfortable presence of his brother Lee, a semi-illiterate, law-breaking wildman, who had lived for years in the desert. Neither man understood the other, yet each secretly envied the other.

Having made it impossible

for Austin to continue to work on his first major screenplay, Lee then conned the film's producer into abandoning it in favour of a ludicrous yarn of his own: a western - a true, modern, western about truck drivers in the desert. A cliché, as Austin observed, like real life. Nor by this time, it should be said, was the play itself.

Credulity was stretched to breaking point as things turned full circle. Lee thumped away at the typewriter. Austin returned from a bizarre expedition in an alcoholic stupor and announced his intention to quit movieland for the deserts. Austin then concluded the transformation by killing his brother.

A little before this unpleasant, but dramatically convenient, state of affairs had been reached, the brothers had discussed the relevance of stories to the understanding of real life. Austin recalled how their father, having spent every last cent on having his teeth removed and replaced with false ones, took his dentures out in a Chinese restaurant, put them in a doggy-bag with some subversive chop suey, and subsequently left them in a bar. That, said Austin, is like life.

All this overlooks the fact that once Abbado decides to back a person or an organisation he tends to stay with them. Earlier this month he signed a five-year contract with the LSO as Music Director after 10 years with the orchestra as Principal Guest and later Chief Conductor. A year before Abbado joined the LSO he was made Musical of La Scala and despite disagreements and resignations he is still there, although he now avoids any formal appellation - "Titles mean far less in Italy than they do in England". And he will be

present to open the 1984-85

Abbado at 50
Once more with passion

present to open the 1984-85

season with a *Carmen* which is

expected to include Domingo,

Verrett and Raimondi.

And it is to La Scala that one

usually has to go to hear

Abbado at his best in opera.

There is little doubt his finest

hour to date at Covent Garden

was when he brought in La

Scala's *Simon Boccanegra*,

a performance of Verdi's work

which has never been surpassed

here. But there are high hopes of

new seasons' new productions at the

ROH.

He has been cautiously and

prudently expanding his repertoire.

Before that Scala *Boris* he

had conducted no *Mussorgsky* and

before *Lohengrin*, which

followed two seasons later, he

had done no Wagner, although

there had been offers from

Bayreuth. He has just com-

pleted a recording of Verdi's

Don Carlos, an opera with

which he has long been

associated, in the original

French. Again the Scala Forces

are used and there is not a single

French singer in the cast, but

Abbado defends the decision to

go back to the Paris version.

"We can open up all the

conventional cuts, including the

choruses and the ballet. Even

more important, we can show

that the music was formed by

the original words. The Italian

translation was terrible and

certainly someone thinks it's

worthwhile to pick up the bill,

so much the better for the health

and diversity of London's orchestral

life. Oliver Knussen produced

over the occasion with quietly

unobtrusive efficiency; he did

not delay us with long lectures,

but plunged in with Poul Ruders

Capriccio Pianissimo. A

Danish flurry of fanfares which

seemed anchored somewhere

between Wagner and Mahler,

buffeted hither and thither by

the gales of Holloway's irrepre-

hensible wide-ranging imagination.

Holloway's electric sensi-

tivity to the music of the past -

and beyond - can be

heard with vivid clarity on

these meditations. They rarely

miss a trick: every harmonic

inflection in the originals is

taken up, pointed, twisted, or

pushed gently half a century

forward. A response to a

rethinking so personal must

itself be personal: I do not have

Siegfried or the apocalyptic

language of late German ro-

manticism in my bloodstream

as Holloway does, and it would

never occur to me to hear

Schumann with that gloss. A

trumpet solo in *Mondnacht* I

find vaguely offensive, yet the

Seurat-like rewriting of the

opening, dissolved into separate

dots is wonderfully convincing.

Auf einer Burg is magically half-

heard, at least until Act Three of

Tristan drifts into view:

Theatre

The Government Inspector
Royal Exchange, Manchester

A sinister overture of farmyard cackles and grunts launches Graham Murray's production. If you had never noticed how often Gogol's characters use animal imagery to convey human appetites or predatory instincts, Gerard McEwan's new adaptation multiplies the references until not even a donkey could miss the point.

The idea of corrupt small-town officials mistaking a penniless clerk for the inspector is so funny and pointed that one might assume the play is surefire without needing assistance. But the dialogue's specific gravity is low. Mr McEwan's acting text is tattered up with plenty of vigorous wit, some bad misfires, clumsy double entendres and loads of lavatory humour: a right dog's breakfast, in short.

Mr Murray's production fortunately keeps animals off the stage, except perhaps for

Geoffrey Andrew's turkey-cock police chief and one lady's feathered hat which might cost her her life in the grouseshooting season. In a tight, pistachio-green tailcoat and floppy two-coloured wig, Derek Griffiths's Khlestakov might be some haghty, faintly ridiculous exotic bird.

For all the production's speed and the script's inventiveness the play still proved treacherous. The cast works hard for their laughs, most successfully Philip Madoc and Val McLane, who enliven the mayor and his wife with a quivering manic snobbery.

Surely the play's greatness is not simply as a satire on greed and gullibility, but as a resonant and disturbing combination of the Christopher Sly fable of a wealth-wish fulfilled with a tragicomic view of our guilty panic at the threat of judgment, human or divine. But, being worked out in terms of satire or simplistic farce, I suspect it needs either a bigger central performance or a more radical approach than borrowing the passenger list of *Noah's Ark*.

Anthony Masters

Concert

Philharmonia/
Knussen

Barbican Hall

The House of Du Maurier is generous indeed to sponsor an evening in a house as thinly populated as was the Barbican on Thursday night; but this was an important instalment in the Music of Today series, and if someone thinks it's worthwhile to pick up the bill, so much the better for the health and diversity of London's orchestral life. Oliver Knussen produced over the occasion with quietly unobtrusive efficiency; he did not delay us with long lectures, but plunged in with Poul Ruders

Capriccio Pianissimo. A

Danish flurry of fanfares which

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between Wagner and Mahler,

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heard, at least until Act Three of

Tristan drifts into view:

Opera

Die Entführung aus dem Serail

Glyndebourne

their showpieces is still, to some extent, there: Mr Davies's shrewd characterization of Belmonte carries him through, but both voices need more flexibility, particularly in the upper register, prevent periodical nail-biting in the audience.

Hilary Finch

Musica

3 July - 11 September
... the bol

Borderlines

Polish listeners to the BBC's overseas service - a third of the country's entire population, I am told - have found a way of getting letters to Bush House past General Jaruzelski's subversion-sniffers. One recent letter, acknowledging receipt of an "English by Radio" package, said it had been opened by the authorities - quite properly - in case it contained underground material or a bomb. The second paragraph spoke of "the warmongering Mrs Thatcher's hatred for peace-loving communist countries", the next blamed the BBC "for what is happening in Poland today". The writer went on: "That should be enough incentive to get past the censor: now to business..."

Bearing Crosses

Yet more from Jesus College, Oxford. It transpires that the former chaplain, whose name was Cross and who answered the phone, "Cross of Jesus", was but one of a trinity of namesakes there. I owe this knowledge to that most reliable rememberer, Harold Wilson, also a Jesus man, who tells me the other two Crosses were the steward of the senior common room and a philosopher from St Andrews University. Wilson says it all became rather confusing and the following nomenclature was devised: the chief steward became Hot Cross, the philosopher St Andrews Cross and the chaplain Holy Cross.

More still. Now the headmaster of Downside, Philip Jebb, tells me he recently asked directory inquiries for the number of Christ's College, Cambridge: the voice at the other end said she could not find Christ's, but would Jesus do? Jebb then found out that she was spelling Christ's without the "h". I expect all these tales to be trumped by the new St Cross College, and await a flood, nay, a book of revelations.

Whale met

Conservationists are often in danger of taking things a little too seriously. At the Camden Arts and Music Festival, which opened this week, there was a dramatization of Melville's *Moby-Dick*, complete with great white whale, when who should turn up in force but members of Greenpeace, which takes a dim view of harpooning. In fact they had not come to protest, simply to take temporary residence in one of the 30 Camden Arts Workshops.

Sweden's King Carl Gustaf, who has already been stripped of all his powers by a Social Democratic government, was yesterday submitted to yet another indignity: a leading article in the main Stockholm paper *Dagens Nyheter* suggested that the royal family be turned into a state-owned company and made to pay its own way.

BARRY FANTONI



Taking the Mick

A surprise spectator at the annual cricket match between *The Times* Literary Supplement and publishers on Thursday was a certain Michael Jagger, singer. He was seated at a table with his ghost autobiographer, John Ryle, deputy literary editor of *The Sunday Times*, whose task has not been made easy by Jagger's less than precise memory and itinerant way of life. The two were sifting through a pile of Ryle's draft pages, but a couple of the countless PHSes at the Shepherds Bush ground tells me Jagger seemed rather more interested in the cricket.

In the picture

Agitation in arts and heritage circles over the Government's failure to appoint an arts spokesman in the Commons seems to be the result of difficulty in finding a suitable candidate. One minister is understood to have turned down the post already. Hopes are now being pinned on John Biffen, who, as well as having the necessary clout as a senior Cabinet minister, was until recently a trustee of the National Forum Gallery.

Harassed press officers at the Wimbledon tennis championships have been cracking down on friends and relatives of the press corps borrowing official passes to get a glimpse of McEnroe and Co. A considerable number of impostors have been "arrested" and ejected from the press boxes including pregnant wives and young children. The press office prize catch, however, was the young son of Peter Preston, editor of *The Guardian*.

PHS

When an affair is not enough

by Alastair Brett

Looking back on the election, committed Alliance supporters are wondering if the miracle can be pulled off again. For miracle it was. Two fiercely independent parties had agreed on a joint manifesto and a prime minister designate.

More than 600 constituencies had been carved up, with the rank and file falling into step behind their leaders in every case but three. With 7.7 million votes, the Alliance seemed assured of a dazzling future.

But in spite of its shiny exterior, the Alliance is an unwieldy craft and the task of keeping it afloat and sorting out its mechanical problems is frighteningly complex. It took months of drafting, hours of discussion and meetings well into the night for the manifesto to emerge. It took almost a year of hard bargaining, some acrimony, and not a little in-fighting for agreement on constituency allocation.

With European elections due next year, but with little or no prospect of proportional representation for those or future Westminster elections, the two parties are seriously having to consider a merger - or, at the very least, how to prolong what purists in the two camps have come to regard as an adulterous relationship forced on them by the wicked first-past-the-post electoral system.

The alternative, given the hairline cracks which have appeared since the election, will be a temptation for those associations which are forging ahead with local politics to adopt their own parliamentary or Euro candidate irrespective of the wishes of the other party in the Alliance.

Potential Liberal candidates were prepared to stand down last time to cement

the Alliance and because the Steel master plan was seen as the best chance of breaking the two-party system. They will be less willing to do so again because of the belief, though not the fact, that on June 9 the SDP was less attractive to voters.

Without some sort of merger the process of deciding which party's candidate is most likely to win a seat can too easily become an eye-scratching local beauty contest with the Association of Liberal Councillors, a defiantly independent body and thorn in Steel's side, playing a key role. In all three constituencies where there was trouble over the selection of an Alliance candidate, a Liberal association with an established power base on the local council refused

point-blank to make way for the nationally endorsed Social Democrat.

One way out would be for the parties to agree on temporary joint membership of a revamped Alliance. Thus, instead of Liberals and Social Democrats going their separate ways, electing their own executives and selecting their own candidates, one local executive formed from the two parties would control all activities.

If the Alliance does move towards this kind of system it would clearly have to be done at joint meetings of Liberals and Social Democrats all over the country. This would almost certainly mean a constitutional change for the SDP in its selection procedure. At present this is done through a postal ballot of what Liberals see as a party membership rather than at meetings where candidates have to make speeches, answer questions, and only those bothering to attend are able to vote.

In the general election, inarticulate and politically inept SDP candidates were sometimes chosen because large numbers of postal votes were cast by people not attending the selection meeting and judging candidates on paper rather than on performance.

Merger or not, if the Alliance is to become the real alternative to Thatcherism it must avoid unseemly squabbles between grassroots activists and build on the bonhomie which exists higher up. That way it will sooner or later find its hands on the levers of power and be able to introduce the ultimate solution to the problem: proportional representation.

The author stood as a Liberal parliamentary candidate in 1979.



Steel and Owen: can the box office at the top be made to spread?

The author stood as a Liberal parliamentary candidate in 1979.

Peter Nichols on the background to the Italian general election

Giovanni Spadolini
Un uomo politico italiano che non assomiglia agli uomini politici italiani.

© *Il Quotidiano per i Repubblicani*, *Il Quotidiano per i Socialisti*

Scandals that could sway the vote

Two men, one dead, the other in prison, who have figured prominently in the Italian election campaign: banker Roberto Calvi (left), found hanging from Blackfriars Bridge, and Licio Gelli, who manipulated the P2 masonic lodge for political ends. Right, a newspaper advertisement showing how the Iron Lady factor is being manipulated by Giovanni Spadolini, the former Republican prime minister

Rome

Voters in the general election tomorrow and Monday will be hard put to decide whether they are supposed to be giving a moral judgment on how their country has been governed, or a political one on its future.

Since the campaign began, skeletons have been jumping out of cupboards with alarming frequency.

Socialists in the Ligurian region

have been hit by arrests on

corruption charges. This led to

renewed interest in allegations that

leading socialists in Genoa had ties with

the scandal of the P2 masonic

lodge which broke two years ago and

involved, among others, Roberto

Calvi, the banker found dead a year

ago hanging under Blackfriars

Bridge in London.

The masonic scandal, despite

obvious efforts to bury it, refuses to go away. If anything, its implications are getting worse. Essentially, the "Propaganda Two" was an old masonic lodge with a perfectly honourable past which had been reconstituted by Signor Licio Gelli, now in prison in Switzerland, as a political instrument which included among its members the heads of the secret service and leading political and public figures.

When the list of more than 900 people said to belong to it was made known, the government fell. Senator Giovanni Spadolini, of the Republican Party, and the first prime

minister since the war not drawn from the ranks of the Christian Democrats, formed a government in June 1981 which was pledged to deal with "the moral emergency", namely the situation revealed by the P2 inquiry.

He finally fell last December, without having been able to complete the moral change. His successor, Senator Amintore Fanfani, the present Prime Minister and a Christian Democrat, made no similar pledge in his programme to round out the corrupters and the corrupt. No sooner, however, had the electoral campaign begun than Signora Tina Anselmi, the Christian Democrat who presided over the parliamentary commission of inquiry into the P2 affair, voiced her suspicions that there were connections between the lodge and the murder of Aldo Moro, the former Christian Democrat prime minister and architect of his agreement with the communists.

The Red Brigades, the terrorist movement responsible for the kidnapping and murder of Moro, was drawn up naming a leading Christian Democrat as guarantor of the agreement.

This document was said to be Cutolo's life insurance and would have been published had either he or his sister met a violent end. Another intriguing aspect of these confessions is said to be that Camorra pressure was responsible for persuading Mehemed Ali Agca, the Turk who wounded the Pope, to make his famous confession which sought to implicate the Bulgarian secret service in the attempt on the Pope's life. Agca and Cutolo were both in Asoli Piceno for several months.

Leading Christian Democrats have rejected the accusations against their party in the Cutolo affair as communist electoral manoeuvring.

It certainly looks odd that so much

should suddenly emerge only days before the vote.

Nevertheless, the electorate has not in the past shown much sensibility towards accusations of corruption against particular parties. The P2 affair, for instance, cannot be said to have had any effect at all on earlier voting when the whole business was much fresher in the voter's mind. It is noticeable that people talk in much more shocked tones about a television personality arrested in the Camorra round-up than any of the politicians who have been named.

Even at that level, large companies could justify videoconferencing on the basis of the fares, expenses and travel time saved by highly paid executives who would otherwise be flying across the world to meetings. Of course, frisky young business executives may be horrified by the prospect of losing opportunities to get away and have fun, but they should be outnumbered by their weary colleagues welcoming the chance to spend more time at home.

Whether a face-to-face meeting is in any sense "better" than a videoconference is a different question. BT staff with experience of Confravision say that most newcomers feel nervous when they first sit in front of the camera but soon warm up and relax. Some even enjoy playing up to the camera and watching themselves on the monitor. On the whole, video sessions are conducted more crisply and efficiently than personal meetings because participants do not feel obliged to draw out proceedings so as to justify all the time they have spent travelling to the conference.

But a market research firm in the United States, International Resource Development, reported recently that many Americans react against videoconferencing because they are so used to slick television performers that they are put off seeing inarticulate and badly dressed colleagues on the screen. The company also claimed that videoconferences fail because participants subconsciously miss smelling one another's emotional reactions as they speak. The suggested solution is a telecentric machine to give the impression that the other people are in the same room.

Videoconferencing is still far from cheap, even after the recent technological advances. Instead of sending a completely new frame 25 times a second, compressed video concentrates on the differences between frames. If someone is speaking against a static background, only his movements and changing expressions are transmitted.

The equipment which GEC-McMichael is producing for British Telecom gives pictures of talking

heads that are indistinguishable from high-quality video. They begin to blur only when the screen becomes full of rapid movement - which would not happen during a normal business conference unless an executive went berserk in front of the camera.

This year's BT trial will link 40 offices in 17 companies. The standard mobile terminal has one camera and two screens built into a veneered cabinet, looking like a double television set. A second camera above a stand films documents or objects. The system can be wheeled into any meeting room with normal lighting levels.

European telecommunications authorities have thrashed out a common standard to make international videoconferencing possible. They are now pressing the Americans to adopt it as a world standard. The United States already has two incompatible systems, one devel-

oped by Compression Labs of California and the other originating with NEC in Japan, whose users cannot communicate with one another nor with the Europeans.

GEC-McMichael, the only European manufacturer to enter the US market, has just made its first sale to an American company for transatlantic videoconferencing and it hopes for millions of dollars worth of orders in the United States. "We in the United Kingdom have a world lead in this technology," says Tim Duffy, manager of McMichael's videoconferencing division.

Videoconferencing is still far from cheap, even after the recent technological advances. BT refuses to discuss the charges it is likely to levy after the trial network becomes a commercial service in 1984. However, McMichael is selling its compression equipment in the United States for \$100,000 (about £65,000).

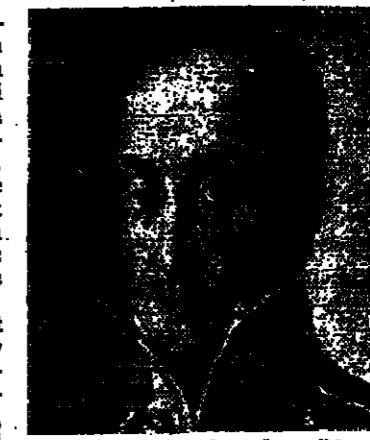
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Malcolm Deas

Will Bolivar now do us a good turn?



Bolivar... placed much confidence in the British

Yesterday was the 162nd anniversary of Simon Bolivar's victory in the Battle of Carabobo, in which a British battalion played a critical part in ending Spanish rule in Venezuela. July 24 is the bi-centenary of Bolivar's birth in Caracas. Various events will commemorate his achievement, and the part that Britain, or certain British, played in them. In the present uncertain state of our foreign relations, these have more than just a ritual interest.

Bolivar was undoubtedly a great man. In an age that was peculiarly avid for glory - a slightly pre-Victorian value - he is worthy competition for Washington, Napoleon, Wellington and Nelson, and he had far fewer means at his command. His personality compelled attention, and generalized descriptions from most of the British who encountered him: "His face... full and round, with a natural smile that rendered it pleasing without hurting that air of superiority which lurked in a dark and intelligent eye, the angry glance of which was bemusing. This eye enlivened a studious cast of countenance, whether natural or acquired I cannot say. His proclamations were numerous, and well adapted to their purpose. He spoke little in company, and had a great desire to tipplers, babblers, idlers, gamblers and duellists."

His vivacity still comes through even in the learned monuments to his memory, and tempts one to try to convey some of it. General Daniel O'Leary, his Irish aide, must have felt the same temptation when making rough notes for his memoirs: "His decesses were sometimes original... a curate who was no great patriot, sought a professional advancement. The Liberator's decree was laconic: 'no polite *a casa, mi padre'.*'

In the sometimes heavy atmosphere of commemoration, it is also a relief to read that when George Canning took upon himself the creation of the new republic with "I called the New World into existence to redress the balance of the old", a moment of profound silence followed, broken only by the sound of faint mocking laughter from a corner of the chamber. Only then did "a wild burst of cheering and applause spread through the house". One realist there, at least.

Bolivar himself indulged his British troops. The Scottish soldier Alexander, after noting his aversion to duellists, goes on to say, "He allowed the English to fight duels, but any (south) American who fought was shot for the offence. He was very fond of the English. He often talked about England, and placed much confidence in the British."

"Out of policy and regard for Britain, he pardoned many villains, giving them passports and rations until they embarked, and even money to carry them off... Bolivar only dismissed them with these words, 'Make out his passport to leave the country' then turning to the culprit, 'Do not thank me for this, sir; your country saves you.'

Bolivar needed British money, British arms, British recognition, and was prepared to put up with the mania for duelling, the insistence of maintaining fine class distinctions,

One realist there, at least.

Wellington certainly admired

Bolivar's achievement, though he later gave it as his opinion that ambition undid him at the end. One might think that rather an easy criticism to make from the splendours of Apsley House. Britain was the first to recognize the changed state of affairs in the Americas, an initiative that Bolivar fervently desired, which gave us a lasting reputation in South America as a benevolent and progressive power, and to which frequent reference will be made in the speeches of the coming month.

The difference between this year and past years is not only the added significance of Bolivar's bi-centenary: it is that post-Falklands audience will be listening more closely to hear anything between the lines.

The author is lecturer in Latin American politics at St Antony's College, Oxford.

Richard Dowden

Peace: a platform for the West

I was almost disappointed that the young Irish priest stood up to the Polish secret police. He resisted the four young men in leather jackets and jeans who were trying to direct him into the back of a car. He shouted at their keeper, an older, rather nervous man in a brown suit: "How do I know you're policemen? You might be a bunch of thugs! Where's your identification?"

The brown-suited gentlemen took out a badge on a chain from his trouser pocket but would not let the priest examine it. As the tuss

150



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MINISTER FOR RATES

In its long and continuing wrestling match with local authorities on the ground of public expenditure the post-79 Conservative administration has twice changed the rules of the contest. It is about to do so again.

In 1980 it prepared the way for a block grant method of distributing rate support grant. At the same time it appointed annual targets of expenditure for each council and took powers to withhold grants from councils that overspent their targets. That ended a system under which higher local expenditure almost automatically attracted higher central grant and the only form of penalty in the hands of the government hit the thrifty along with the spendthrift.

In 1982 legislation was brought in to cancel councils' power to levy a supplementary rate, to enlarge the minister's discretionary power to withhold grant, and to institute a centralized and supposedly more searching form of local audit.

Each time the Government was met by the complaint, not least from its own supporters, that it was violating the remaining autonomy of local authorities and overthrowing the "constitutional" balance between central and local powers. Mr Heseltine was the author of these apparently contra-conservative measures, and Mr Tom King their chief parliamentary executioner.

The defence was first that it was not the Government but blacksheep Labour councils who were the aggressors, since they were abusing the convention that councils respond to the government-of-the-day's general wishes concerning the volume of local expenditure; and second that the measures anyway did not invade the citadel of local financial autonomy, a council's power to set its own rates. Mr King in *Hansard* January 18 1982:

I stand by the statement that I made on an earlier occasion... It remains the case that while the Government still has a responsibility for the distribution of grant, the levels of rates are the responsibility of the local authorities. They have to determine them and remain answerable to their electorate.

So often and so emphatically did

ENTER THE CONINTERN

Conservatives by definition are slow to change. But never let it be said that, after mature examination, they are unwilling to borrow a good idea from someone else. Yesterday, a mere hundred and nineteen years after the founding of the first International Working Men's Association, and in the same city, the International Democratic Union came into being. Following in the steps of the Liberals (Liberal International, 1947) and of the Christian Democrats (Nouvelles Equipes Internationales, 1947; Intercontinental Committee of Christian Democracy, 1958), the conservatives of the world have at last gathered their forces for the great counter-attack.

The time for an apotheosis of conservatism, with the camera angle widening from the national through the European to the worldwide dimension, could not have been better chosen. "At its birth," declared the hostess (or should one say the midwife?), "we can already claim the support of 150 million people - double the size of the Socialist International. It girdles the earth." One recalls the closing scene of Eisenstein's *Ivan The Terrible*: in the foreground the majestic ruler, newly consecrated by popular acclaim; in the background, stretching into the

Mr King draw that line, that it is no surprise to find, now that the Government is about to obliterate the distinction, that Mr King has slipped off to transport and his place at the head of the environment department is taken by Mr Patrick Jenkin who arrives uncompromised by any previous experience of the matter.

The Government has announced its intention, and will seek to legislate this session to give effect to it, to take power to determine rate limits for selected local authorities, and a reserve power to set rate limits for all authorities if necessary.

Does it really need these additional powers, which are unquestionably subversive of local autonomy? It hardly needs them for its macroeconomic purposes of managing the economy and regulating the public finances. English local authorities' planned expenditure exceeds Whitehall's target this year by £70 million or about 4 per cent. Past experience suggests the excess may turn out to be less. More than half of it is accounted for by authorities, the GLC etc., which the Government proposes to abolish anyway. The remainder is well within the margin of standard estimating error in public sums of this magnitude. Moreover "overspending" in that way does not directly affect either of the two main preoccupations of recent governments in relation to public expenditure. It does not add to public borrowing since it is fully covered by revenue raised by rates, and it does not increase inflationary pressure for the same reason.

There is another more cogent reason for assuming this new power, a reason partly of the Government's own making. The sanction it took to secure compliance with its local expenditure targets was not merely to see that excess expenditure falls wholly on the rates, but to add a fine in the form of withdrawal of grant, rising sharply with the level of excess. This is supposed to place a local democratic constraint on erring councillors mindful of the electoral day of reckoning with their ratepayers. But in too many places it does not work like that. The relation-

ship of financial accountability and responsibility between councils and their local electors has been allowed to atrophy. The system is already rotten at its extremities where commercial and industrial ratepayers, who have no vote as such, pay by far the larger part of the total; where, as everywhere, there are many electors who receive no rate demand; where a substantial proportion of domestic ratepayers are screened from rate rises by rebates or benefits where council tenants and council employees, who have a superior interest in public productivity, are thick on the ground. Ratepayers, commercial and domestic, who find themselves in that position may become the victims of a tug of war between central and local politicians. They deserve protection.

The protection ought to be provided by a systematic reform of the financial and electoral basis of local government. That is an undertaking fit for a Conservative government with a safe perch and long views, which ought to feel acutely uncomfortable at being party to the steady conversion of local government into localized central administration. The remainder is well within the margin of standard estimating error in public sums of this magnitude. Moreover "overspending" in that way does not directly affect either of the two main preoccupations of recent governments in relation to public expenditure. It does not add to public borrowing since it is fully covered by revenue raised by rates, and it does not increase inflationary pressure for the same reason.

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ship of financial accountability and responsibility between councils and their local electors has been allowed to atrophy. The system is already rotten at its extremities where commercial and industrial ratepayers, who have no vote as such, pay by far the larger part of the total; where, as everywhere, there are many electors who receive no rate demand; where a substantial proportion of domestic ratepayers are screened from rate rises by rebates or benefits where council tenants and council employees, who have a superior interest in public productivity, are thick on the ground. Ratepayers, commercial and domestic, who find themselves in that position may become the victims of a tug of war between central and local politicians. They deserve protection.

The protection ought to be provided by a systematic reform of the financial and electoral basis of local government. That is an undertaking fit for a Conservative government with a safe perch and long views, which ought to feel acutely uncomfortable at being party to the steady conversion of local government into localized central administration. The remainder is well within the margin of standard estimating error in public sums of this magnitude. Moreover "overspending" in that way does not directly affect either of the two main preoccupations of recent governments in relation to public expenditure. It does not add to public borrowing since it is fully covered by revenue raised by rates, and it does not increase inflationary pressure for the same reason.

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THE TRAINING TAKES PRIORITY

The Manpower Services Commission's acronyms, from YOP to WEEP, have caused some mirth, and the commission's enterprising officials have not always been able to still the doubts that all this bustle served only to keep young people temporarily off the streets. But in the absence of political inspiration in coping with mass unemployment the MSC has performed well its sisyphean task of pushing numbers off the top of the unemployment aggregates and along the way giving individuals hope and a better chance of finding work.

Its success has come from the team effort of its commissioners, representing both sides of industry and education, and its network of officials and their contacts in firms and public authorities throughout the land. The issues before the MSC have rarely come to a vote. The more divided are the commissioners the less effective they are likely to be and the less able to present to the Secretary of State for Employment and his Cabinet colleagues unsatisfactory projections of vacancies and school-

leavers' numbers. So Thursday's straight division of the commission (labour plus education versus employers) over the issue of trainees' allowances was unfortunate.

On the face of it, it appears mean to refuse to increase the allowance of £25 a week now paid to participants in the youth training scheme (which is meant to encompass all jobless school-leavers); the figure was set a year ago and the unions wanted an extra £1.45 a week. But there are good reasons why, as Mr Norman Tebbit has already hinted, the Government will ignore the unions' victory in the commissioners' vote.

The arithmetic, which often looks so trivial in the individual case, produces a large increase in the MSC budget when that desired increase is multiplied by the 450,000 participants in the scheme - numbers all conditional on unemployment not growing beyond the official projections. If the MSC budget is to be prevented from growing beyond plan then the increased allowance would have to be paid from the global sum allocated to employers in the scheme to

cover both allowances and training costs. Mr David Young, the MSC chairman, asked whether an extra pound in the trainee's pocket was worth a diminution in the quality of training or workplace supervision: the answer is no.

But do youth trainees not deserve "indexation" of their allowance? If they were state pensioners in the same way as the old, the unemployed and the poor, there would be a case. But the youth scheme embodies an attempt to "add value" by means of training and work experience; the status of participants is a temporary one; their remuneration is meant to bear some ultimate relationship with labour market rewards. Mr Tebbit's most compelling argument is likely to be that the present level of allowance is already, for a 16 year old, relatively generous. Come November the supplementary benefit for such a young unemployed person living at home will be less than £16.50, implying that the trainee allowance could stay fixed at its present level for some time without the differential wearing away.

Call for building societies reform

From Lord Young of Dartington

Sir, What is striking about the latest rise in the building societies' mortgage rate, apart from it being so unwelcome, is that once again the societies are acting together instead of in competition with each other. The building societies' cartel is, in other words, still very much in existence.

May we hope that the Government, professing as it does an interest in competition, will at last take action to abolish this cartel and, in the interest of consumers, at the same time carry out the many other reforms that are required in building societies? Sir Geoffrey Howe proposed the need for reform while he was still Chancellor.

It is a pity there was nothing about legislation on this in the Queen's speech. But at least Mr Lawson could now begin preparing for legislation in the next session. Can we hope that he will do so?

Yours etc,

MICHAEL YOUNG,

House of Lords.

June 23.

From Mrs Diana Golding

Sir, If the building societies are so short of funds why do they not offer a discount (such as council tenants receive) to encourage the elderly to complete the purchase of their houses quickly? Many of us with a few thousands owing would be delighted to repay the outstanding debt, even if it meant borrowing temporarily from other sources.

Yours faithfully,

DIANA GOLING,

Exmire Gate,

Exmire,

Chichester,

West Sussex.

June 23.

Taking the heat out

From Mr Tom Daly

Sir, In his article yesterday (June 20) Mr Gerald Kaufman stated that the greatest challenge facing the Labour Party was the recovery of credibility and, indeed, the credibility gap is very wide. Reference is made to Harold Wilson's celebrated speech at the 1963 Conference when the "white heat" of the technological revolution was directed at the conference delegates, signalling "a new kind of Labour Party, up-to-date, even ahead of the times and eager to demonstrate its managerial talents".

The white heat seemed to be of short duration and it was twenty years later - at the Labour Party conference last autumn - that a resolution was approved to set up a Labour Party science and technology group and that party policy should include support for innovative technology. Mr Douglas Hoyal then replied for the NEC, stating that a comprehensive report on the future of science and technology should be placed before next year's conference.

This slow response to the international technological and marketing problems which rapidly developed in the post-war years has been noted by the electorate, which may not be especially enthusiastic about the present government, but believes it may have at least one foot on the ground.

Yours faithfully,

TOM DALBY,

Westbourne Park,

Scarborough,

North Yorkshire.

June 21.

Military degree

From Mr Michael F. Davis

Sir, While expanding on the Duke of Edinburgh's recommendations (report, June 3) that military science should be taken far more seriously, your correspondents surprisingly fail to mention that it is clearly a very desirable factor in such studies a knowledge of Russian.

Since Soviet political and military opinion is not monolithic, trends in that opinion need to be identified and analysed as soon as they emerge.

From a less Eurocentric viewpoint, Chinese would also seem to be desirable.

Yours faithfully,

MICHAEL F. DAVIS,

12 Beach Road,

Hampshire.

June 16.

Work for unemployed

From Mrs Marie Forsyth

Sir, I am not surprised that the Manpower Services Commission takes four months to "complete the necessary paperwork" (June 22). They are probably in league with the DSS.

Last October I started full-time employment and asked the DSS if I were entitled to make reduced National Insurance contributions. My local office "checked with Newcastle" and six months later Newcastle finally agreed that I was

entitled to the reduction and informed me that I would be sent a white card to claim my refund. In May (two months later) the white card arrived. I duly claimed the refund and was told yesterday that it was unlikely to arrive before the end of the month.

Why? What are they doing in Newcastle? Perhaps Bernard Levin could investigate.

Yours sincerely,

MARIE FORSYTH,

28 Stockerton Road,

Uppington,

Leicestershire.

June 22.

enforced the same low-flying jet noise nuisance, but was pleased to do so.

Mr Kercher may find it enlightening to have a chat with those brave young R.A.F. men who risk their lives playing "tag" in an area whose daunting topography provides a necessary challenge in their training.

They might be too modest to say that they were in the "game" of defending this country from possible aggression and, in particular, preserving for posterity that beautiful landscape he and I so much admire.

Yours sincerely,

FELICIA KENTRIDGE,

Legal Resources Centre,

P.O. Box 9493,

Johannesburg,

South Africa.

June 20.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thinking and listening to some purpose

From Sir John Hoskyns

Sir, Jock Bruce-Gardyne ("What use a tank that leaks?" June 22) assumes that it was the CPRS (Central Policy Review Staff) itself that leaked details of its paper on the future of the NHS. I did not realise that this had, in fact, been established. It certainly seems more likely that leaks about such unthinkables things until it is too late. We must hope that Mr Nigel Lawson persists and is successful.

Yours faithfully,

JOHN HOSKYNNS,

Windrush,

Great Waldingfield,

Sudbury,

Suffolk.

June 24.

A leak from elsewhere in Whitehall seems even more likely if, as reports of the incident suggested, the Cabinet Office (within which the CPRS is based) inadvertently gave the CPRS paper wide circulation and low security classification.

An important lesson from the CPRS/NHS episode is that no one should be asked to generate possible solutions to a problem until that problem has been properly defined (often a more difficult and laborious task than at first appears) and the definition has been agreed by all who are concerned with its solution. To plunge into "options" before this has been done is a sure way to confusion. This has been elementary management teaching since the early sixties, but is still not understood in Whitehall.

The infantile response of Westminster and most of Fleet Street to any attempt to think about anything, thinkable or unthinkable, is disturbing. Expenditure on the NHS, effectively free at the point of consumption, grew in real terms by over 17 per cent between the elections of 1979 and 1983, at a time of deep recession. Was this good news or bad?

To what level of taxation will free supply and the rising price of technology-driven medical

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STOCK EXCHANGES

 FT Index: 726.1 up 1.2
 FT GIfts: 82.30 down 0.08
 Bargains: 23, 126
 Datasream USM Leaders
 Index: 98.9 up 0.23
 Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones
 index 8845.38 up 31.90
 Hongkong: Hang Seng index
 951.22 up 14.38
 New York: Dow Jones Average (latest) 1237.58 down 4.21

CURRENCIES

 LONDON CLOSE
 Sterling \$1.5465 up 35 pts
 Index 84.7 up 0.4
 DM 3.9050 up 0.0050
 Frf 11.7550 up 0.0050
 Yen 88.50 up 2.00
 Dollar
 Index 124.4 unchanged
 DM 2.5247 up 2 pts
 Gold
 \$423.50 up \$3
 NEW YORK LATEST
 Gold \$423.50
 Sterling \$1.5435

INTEREST RATES

 Domestic rates:
 Base rates 9½
 3 month interbank 9½-9¾
 Euro-currency rates:
 3 month dollar 9½-9¾
 3 month DM 5½-5¾
 3 month Frf 14½-14¾
 ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling
 Export Finance Scheme
 Average reference rate for
 interest period May 4 to June
 7, 1983 inclusive: 10.344 per
 cent.

PRICE CHANGES

 Cons Gold 599+20p
 GUS "A" 540+20p
 GKN 161+3p
 Barclays 510+4p
 BCI 450+5p
 Glaxo 915+3p
 Trafalgar 186p+4p
 Hawker 336p
 Marks 199p-1p

NOTEBOOK

Sales of Scotch have not met the distillers' expectations so far this year. The market has been hit by changes in drinking habits and the recession. Stocks are still high. But the long term outlook is good. Shares are now fairly valued and the market is being held back by uncertainties about gits. The trend in company profits is upwards. The broad nature of the corporate improvement could mean that the FT30 and All Share indices do not perform in the same way.

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Advisers named
 Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, yesterday named his three special advisers: Mr Adam Ridley, 41, who was special adviser to Sir Geoffrey Howe as Chancellor; Mr Rodney Lord, 37, economics leaderwriter for the *Daily Telegraph*; and Dr Lynda Rouse, 35, Mr Lawson's special adviser when he was Secretary of State for Energy.

Airline collapse led to hearings in US and Britain
How the Laker legal web grew
From Our Correspondent, Washington

"I'm flying high today. I've raised £60m sterling. My troubles are over."

The confident words came from Sir Freddie Laker as he boarded a plane in London for talks with his primary leaders in the United States in February 1982.

Later that afternoon, officials of Samuel Montagu, acting for the Midland Bank, Laker's principle banker, said they were at "an advanced stage" of negotiations on a loan package to save the struggling Laker Airways. They estimated the loan plan would be completed in a week.

Three days later Laker Airways collapsed triggering a complex and protracted legal battle now being fought in British and American courts.

In a civil complaint filed in the US Federal Court in Washington, Sir Freddie said that from Christmas Eve 1981, until midday on February 3, 1982, he believed that McDonnell Douglas Corporation and General Electric of the US would be forthcoming with promised £10m cash to save his faltering airline.

Suddenly on February 4, without warning or time to seek other financing, Sir Freddie claimed that he had been informed the loan package had fallen apart and he had been forced into receivership. Subsequently, Laker Airways

US coalition of moderates increases taxes and cuts defence spending
Congress passes budget and heads for confrontation with Reagan
From Bailey Morris, Washington

The US Congress has finally passed a compromise budget of higher taxes and sharply reduced defence spending for 1984 which is certain to trigger a political confrontation with President Reagan.

The bipartisan budget, which took House and Senate negotiators two intense weeks to work out, was passed in the Democratic-controlled House by a vote of 239 to 186 and in the Republican-controlled Senate on a vote of 51 to 43.

The vote was widely regarded as an indication that there is an emerging coalition of moderates from both parties who disagree sharply with Mr Reagan's economic priorities.

In the debate preceding the voting, many moderates said that they could not justify increased defence spending at the expense of the poor and elderly and could not live with

the huge federal deficits projected in the Administration's programme.

President Reagan has said repeatedly in recent days that he would oppose strongly budget which would both raise taxes during the present recovery and cut funds for his planned military build-up. Although he cannot veto the budget resolution as such, he does have the power to veto specific enacting legislation.

The deficit projected in the \$84.6bn budget passed by Congress was estimated to be in the range of \$170bn to \$175bn, compared with deficits of up to \$200bn projected by the Administration.

The budget resolution directs

Congressional committees to draft legislation raising \$12bn in new taxes during fiscal 1984 and \$75bn over three years. The budget will cut in half Mr

marked for a variety of recession relief measures now being considered by Congress.

Although Mr Reagan can veto enacting legislation for such measures as the tax increase, his hands are tied on defence spending. Since defence appropriation committees in both houses are now committed to increases of no more than 5 per cent in fiscal 1984, the president must either accept the reduced level or veto the measure and get less.

Both the House and the Senate openly defied Mr Reagan by deciding that the way to reduce spiralling federal deficits was to reduce defence spending rather than to make further cuts in domestic programmes.

Further, both houses were apparently in agreement with European officials that, despite Administration arguments to the contrary, the huge deficits will be reduced, thus easing pressure on interest rates.

City Comment
Oil out of troubled waters

Those small investors who bought Britoil shares when they went public last autumn have proved more shrewd in their judgment than the institutions who refused to touch it with a barge pole.

Although the shares fell and fell hard in the weeks and months immediately after the flotation, they have since more than recovered.

And yesterday, the day of the company's first annual meeting since its flotation, the shares touched 246p against a sale price last November of 215p.

The change of fortune at Britoil is part and parcel of changing attitudes to the oil market generally. Mr Phillip Shelbourne, its chairman, put his finger on this when he said that he now expects a period of price stability to be followed – although he did not say when – by a gradual and steady upward movement in the cost of the commodity.

The Russians seem to agree with him. Earlier this week they boosted the price of their crude oil and bought considerable cheer to holders of sterling. It rose strongly because the perceived view is that the higher the price of oil worldwide the more money flows into Britain's coffers.

Oil is obviously still a good business to be in – but that is perhaps why the Government should take to heart Mr Shelbourne's remarks to the effect that although the last Budget did something to encourage oil development, it did not address the problem of the next generation of fields which will be needed to maintain self sufficiency into the next century. If Mr Shelbourne is right, and many in the business agree with him, then this ought to be high on the Government's list of priorities.



Reagan defied by both houses.

Reagan's requested 10 per cent increase in defence spending and provide an estimated \$14bn more for domestic spending than the president wanted.

Not included in the overall total is a separate, special reserve fund of \$8.5bn car-

Taubman thwarted in Sotheby's battle
By Philip Robinson

Mr Alfred Taubman's buying of Sotheby Parke-Bernet shares was yesterday curtailed by action from his rivals for the auction house.

Fellow Americans Mr Marshall Cogan and Mr Stephen Swid succeeded in obtaining a Takeover Panel ruling – the first one ever made – shares should be counted with those owned by the Sotheby board.

The directors have already welcomed him as a bidder for the company. The "concert party" ruling the number of additional Sotheby shares he can buy in the stock market has been cut by almost half.

Previously, such shareholders would only be considered as they were already owned by the bidding company if an offer had been made.

Mr Taubman has yet to make

Flood of offers for Maunders
By Jeremy Warner

An offer for sale of 2.5 million shares in John Maunders Construction, a private housebuilder in the Northwest, has claimed its first casualty with the resignation of Mr David Secker Walker on Thurs-

day. He was the managing director of Cayer, Gartmore, the financial services subsidiary of B&C, Gartmore's parent company.

Meanwhile, an offer for sale by Hambrus Bank of 3 million shares at a minimum tender price of 100p in Tumstall which makes emergency communications equipment for the elderly and the infirm, has also been oversubscribed, attracting nearly £130m. Only 2.5m was being sought.

The size of the John Maunders oversubscription which is being handled by the stock broking firm Henry Cooke Lumden, has meant that applications for 4,800 shares or fewer, will go for a ballot of just 100 shares.

Even those who applied for 27,500 or more will only get 2 per cent of what they asked for.

John Maunders, which is going directly to a full stock market listing, made pretax profits of £689,000 in the year to June 30 last year.

Cayzer, Gartmore chief resigns
By Jonathan Clare

British and Commonwealth Shipping's deal to sell control of its Gartmore fund management business to Exco International has claimed its first casualty with the resignation of Mr David Secker Walker on Thurs-

day. He was the managing director of Cayer, Gartmore, the financial services subsidiary of B&C, Gartmore's parent company.

The value of those warrants has been the subject of a dispute between the directors of the trusts and B&C. B&C is entitled to exercise warrants which allow some executives and investment trusts to subscribe for shares in Cayer, Gartmore.

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The lead "syndicate" at Lloyd's is number 640 which could be liable for \$20m if Mr Secker Walker successfully sued it for the full amount or \$3m if the claim is settled on his terms.

Lloyd's sued for \$200m

An American diamond cutting company is suing Lloyd's of London for \$200m (£129.3m) in a claim resulting from a jewelry raid in August 1981.

Moshe Tubero Co said it was prepared to settle for \$50m if Lloyd's responded by June 17. "Thereafter settlement may be difficult due to the entry of a final (default) judgment." The offer to settle expires on July 8.

Lloyd's says the amounts claimed are "grossly exaggerated." A default judgement was

FRAMLINGTON

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FRAMLINGTON Recovery Trust

aims for maximum capital growth through investment in recovery situations.

These arise when, for one reason or another, a company falls on hard times and its shares fall to a level where they are exceptionally cheap. When the company does recover, perhaps with a change of market conditions or as a result of sharp management action, those who bought when the shares were cheap stand to do very well.

With an individual company there is of course a risk that the recovery may never take place. This is why a unit trust is such a good vehicle for investing in recoveries. Because it invests in a wide spread of recovery situations a unit trust can shrug off the occasional casualty. The potential rewards from the successes can be very high.

Timing. In the opinion of the managers this is a good time to invest. Recovery funds tend to do ex-

ceptionally well when the economy as a whole is pulling out from recession.

Flexibility. The trust invests primarily in UK shares, but is not limited by geographical area, size of company or market sector. On 20 June 52% was invested in the UK, 42% in North America and 6% elsewhere.

Track record. The trust was launched on 16 April 1982 at 50p per unit. On 20 June Accumulation units were 76.2p and Income units 74.6p, a rise of 49%. Over the same period the FT All Share Index rose 42%.

More recently growth has accelerated. Since January 1, units are up 36% compared with 17% for the All Share Index.

Personal involvement. Framlington funds are run by the individual manager, not by committee. Recovery Trust is managed by Antony Milford, whose other funds include our highly success-

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until Friday 15th July 1983

To: Framlington Unit Management Limited, 61 London Wall, London EC2M 5NQ

If we wish to invest the sum of £... (minimum £100) in Framlington Recovery Trust and enclose a cheque payable to Framlington Unit Management Limited. I am/we are over 18.

For accumulation units in which net income is reinvested, please tick here.

Surname (Mr/Mrs/Miss)

Full forenames

Address

Signature(s) Date

(Joint applicants should all sign and enclose details separately)

FRAMLINGTON RECOVERY TRUST

Minet shows promise

ACCOUNTDAYS: Dealing began June 20, Dealing end July 1, Contango Day July 4, Settlement Day July 11.

Bumper profits and a big improvement in the share price is on the cards for Minet Holdings, the Lloyd's insurance broker, and a great favourite among the takeover pundits.

Yesterday the shares rose 1p to 125p as brokers W Greenwell upgraded their expectations for the year in the wake of the healthy first quarter figures announced this week showing pretax profits up from £2.7m to £3.5m. But prices closed below their best levels with the FT index ending 1.2 up at 726.1, after an earlier gain of 2.9.

ICI closed unchanged at 514p. It seems Britain's biggest industrial group has asked the US Securities and Exchange Commission for permission to raise the ceiling of its debt to \$300m.

Oil enjoyed a new lead of 51p. It seems Britain's biggest oil firm reports that if Minet can maintain this growth, it should easily exceed their forecast of £19.2m for the year. Last year Minet made pre-tax profits of £17.7m.

Much of this year's improvement has stemmed from currency gains and an upturn in the group's Middle East and Far East business. But the North American market, which last year accounted for 32 per cent of broker income, remains dull. Greenwell maintain that the weakness in the price, owing to the revelations at Lloyd's, has been overtaken and the shares are still good value up to 135p-145p.

But with the St Paul Companies Inc holding just under 26 per cent of the shares, the threat

of a full bid remains in the wings.

The rest of the equity market remained firm, despite the latest trade figures showing a deficit of £552m. But prices closed below their best levels with the FT index ending 1.2 up at 726.1, after an earlier gain of 2.9.

Brokers Statham Duff Stoop are arranging a private placing of 6.4m shares in Computer Holdings, manufacturer of Lynx microcomputers, to raise £1m. The shares are being offered at 70p a share and values the entire company at £4.4m. The company has forecast pretax profits of £750,000 for the year to March 31. It is hoped the shares may be quoted under rule 163(2).

Further improvements in the pound against other leading currencies on the foreign

exchange led to gains of 50p in gilt. The pound closed 0.3 cents up at \$1.5460.

In blue chips, Beecham rose 5p to 376p ex-rights after the recent £200m cash raising exercise, which seems to have been well received by the market.

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pound against other leading

currencies on the foreign

exchange led to gains of 50p in gilt.

The pound closed 0.3 cents up at \$1.5460.

In blue chips, Beecham rose 5p to 376p ex-rights after the recent £200m cash raising exercise, which seems to have been well received by the market.

ICI closed unchanged at 514p. It seems Britain's biggest

industrial group has asked the

US Securities and Exchange

Commission for permission to

raise the ceiling of its debt to

\$300m.

Oil enjoyed a new lead of 51p. It seems Britain's biggest

oil firm reports that if Minet can

maintain this growth, it should

easily exceed their forecast of

Healthy attitudes

The take up of voluntary private medical insurance schemes like BUPA and PPP, by employees, is only 5 to 10 per cent, if the employee has to bear the cost, according to recent research in *Insurance*.

Most companies are worried about the escalating cost of private medical insurance, but only a minority have changed their insurer or plan to change. Rising costs appear to be accepted by many as inevitable, says the survey. Most schemes provide insurance free of charge to directors, executives and senior management.

There is opposition from some trade unions but this could change if the National Health Service continues to decline. If it does, and unions begin to push for free cover as part of collective agreements, employers could face significant increases in their costs.

Leaving early

An early leavers pension transfer plan, launched by insurer Sun Life in February has attracted 9,000

applications. "This proves the need for this facility," says Sun Life.

Sun Life's 1-Plan offers job changes, or redundancy, an alternative to the usual free pension demands, which are usually paid as a percentage of final salary at the date of leaving.

Transfer plans were developed by London & Manchester, which has also had an enthusiastic response for its Transplan.

Bid to cut fraud

Credit card fraud is rampant: TSB Trustcard is looking at a number of ways to improve card security but believes that a little more care by card holders would make a real contribution. It is sending all card holders a leaflet, *The Trustcard Safety Code*, in an attempt to reduce the number of cards lost or stolen.

The code makes these points: keep the card with you at all times; keep the card and a duplicate card separate; report the card immediately if it is received; and advise the trustcard centre if you have not received your new card by the time the old one has expired; or if you change your address or if you think the card has been lost or stolen.

Japanese unit fund

Aitken Hume has launched what is believed to be the first unit trust investing in Japanese technology. Units in the new Japanese Technology Fund will be available from this weekend until June 30 at the special initial price of 50p. The minimum investment is £500.

Maximum interest

Investors looking for income might fancy Chase de Vere's Maximum Interest Bond, which pays 2.1 per cent above the building societies' new recommended rate of 7.25 per cent. This works out at 9.35 per cent, basic rate tax paid.

Higher rate taxpayers could have a liability to higher rates of tax. The rate is guaranteed to remain 2.1 per cent above the BSA recommended rate. The bond is a two-year investment, with a minimum of £2,500.

Flexible retirement

Albany Life Assurance Company has introduced a Flexible Retirement Plan which provides a tax efficient 60-plus

income together with tax-free capital if you need it.

The plan is designed to give all the tax advantages of an Inland Revenue approved retirement plan, as well as the benefits of professional investment management.

Details of this plan which can be tailored to meet individual needs, are available from Albany Life, Station House, 3 Darke Lane, Potters Bar, Herts EN5 1AL.

Part-owner scheme

The Leeds Permanent has allocated £2m to help families under a new Do-it-yourself shared ownership scheme.

Under the Government's shared ownership scheme which restricts buyers to housing association houses,

the Leeds scheme allows the purchaser to choose his own home then approach the housing association for help.

The purchaser can buy a part-share in the property, pay rent on the remainder and buy the rest of the house later.

The special fund will be available for the use of associations in inner-city areas.

Relaunch bonus

Framlingham's Recovery Trust, launched on April 16, 1982, is being relaunched with a bonus offer of 1 per cent up to £15,000 (a total of £1 per cent above £15,000) open until July 15. Since the original launch, the price of units has risen 49 per cent, compared with 42 per cent for the FT All Share Index; since January 1, units have risen 36 per cent compared with 17 per cent for the Index. The fund aims for capital growth and has 52 per cent invested in Britain, with 42 per cent in the US.

Backing for Biba

A total of 85 Members of the new House of Commons supports the British Insurance Brokers' Association campaign for statutory regulation of non-broker intermediaries in the insurance

market. Biba questioned more than 700 Parliamentary candidates during the General Election, of whom 90 per cent supported its case.

Mr Michael Morris, Biba's director-general, commented: "The results are a

significant basis for hoping that the Government will bring forward legislation on this matter in the near future".

For the office

Legal and General have designed a new office insurance policy whose basic cover includes: contents on an all risks basis, claims for contents and buildings on a reinstatement-new basis, Defective Premises Act and Health and Safety at Work Act cover and glass cover which includes most internal and external glass, signs and sanitary fittings. Cover for office contents can be index-linked and there are a number of optional extras.

The following rates apply for the basic cover calculated on the total value of the office contents.

First £10,000 Next £40,000

London-GLC 10.75% 20.80% Elsewhere 9.60% 20.50%

Special rates are available for sum insured in excess of £50,000.

Travel**Cardholders offered medical costs cover**

American Express is offering a travel insurance package - for cardholders only - which looks like one of the best deals available.

For an annual premium of £35 the cardholder, wife or husband and children are given year round medical fees insurance cover - the thing that will really bankrupt you if you have a claim with no limit on the number of times you travel about.

Annual maximum is £50,000 for the whole family and for £10 a year per person, you can cover each member of the family when they are travelling alone - and if you have student offspring likely to go off to Greece for the summer.

Repatriation costs cover is unlimited so if an air ambulance is needed, this won't be restricted by the £50,000 ceiling.

For a further £10 a year you can buy optional car insurance (Europe only) which gives you access to Europ Assistance's 24 hour emergency service and gives unlimited cover for repatriation costs, spare parts delivery and location and vehicle storage charges. Car hire costs up to £400 are covered, £100 towing charges and up to £100 per person for extra hotel expenses.

Another £10 premium will buy cover for personal baggage loss of £1,000, cancellation costs of £2,000, personal money loss of £500 and third party cover of £500.

The only criticism is that the application form is not at all clear and the intending purchaser of this cover is given no idea of the terms and conditions.

In fact if you are not in the best of health it might be wise to check first with American Express as there is a somewhat ambiguous exclusion clause which may relate to pre-existing medical conditions.

As an incentive to encourage potential cardholders, American Express is introducing a free insurance scheme giving a range of free benefits to those who travel on a scheduled flight with a ticket paid for on an American Express card.

Alex will reimburse the cardholder for up to £50 of extra meal and refreshment charges incurred after four hours delay.

Insurance**Signal Life investors mobilize**

Investors in Signal Life's gilt bond are joining forces to take legal action against insurance brokers, many of whom were members of the British Insurance Brokers Association, and intermediaries who sold the Signal Life Bond.

Signal Life collapsed last summer owing more than £5m to investors. The Gilt Bond fund had no trustee although some intermediaries told investors that Hong Kong Shanghai Bank was trustee.

The new Signal Life Investors Action Group (SILAG) is rounding up a central fighting fund to bring test cases against the brokers who sold the gilt bonds. Mr John Potter, Coordinator of the group says, "the BBC Moneybox programme found out that Hong Kong Shanghai Bank was not the trustee with one simple phone call".

"Surely the brokers should have done likewise on behalf of their clients?"

Mr Potter can be contacted at home on Winkfield Row (0344) 884878, or office, Camberley (0276) 63344 extension 366.

Mortgage brokers

How to break the home loan queues

The building societies are hoping that this week's announcement of an increase in their home loan rates up from 10 per cent to 11.25 per cent will choke off demand for mortgages, or bring in a lot more money for lending - or both. Some people in the housing market believe that demand for home loans is so strong that the move will in fact do neither.

Mortgage queues of three to four months or more are now commonplace and have precipitated a revival in the fortunes of mortgage brokers, who are once again flourishing.

Mortgage broking is a profession which has had more than its fair share of sharks and incompetents in the past - so "good" is the operative word. However, plenty of registered insurance brokers act as mort-

gage brokers too so the choice is fairly wide. The rules are: do not pay anything up front, or if you do, get a receipt (then you can claim the money back, less a nominal fee of one pound, if he does not come up with an acceptable deal within six months); do not accept the deal that he offers if you do not like the terms; and so check that he has a reputation to lose.

The Corporation of Mortgage Brokers (which will supply the names of brokers in your area) imposes ethical standards and is prepared to discipline members who do not conform to them. We talked to some of its members about the present situation.

Mr Terence Gibson, CMB, chairman, whose firm is based at Birmingham, says the best way for people to get a mortgage is still for them to have saved

and have an account with a building society. For those who have none, however, it is quite possible to arrange a mortgage - even a 100 per cent mortgage - with the bulk of the money coming from a building society and the rest from an insurance company.

Mr Geoff Buckingham, who is based at Ealing, is getting money from the American banks (who are "very competitive on the bigger mortgages") and the insurance companies.

The table shows brokers who

confirm that they can arrange a loan, though almost all qualified it with the remark "at a price". Some could arrange larger loans of over £40,000 more easily than smaller loans.

If you do not want to use a broker and your own building society has a waiting list, what are the alternatives. First, try other branches of your own building society - particularly central London branches or branches in the centre of any large town where they may not

yet have used up their mortgage quota. Second, shop around the smaller building societies.

Many smaller societies have to pay extra for their deposits, and charge over the odds for the money that they lend.

For instance, the New Cross Building Society which has a reputation for having money available through thick and thin, stopped lending on May 13 (except for existing depositors).

The Gilt Bond fund had no trustee although some intermediaries told investors that Hong Kong Shanghai Bank was trustee.

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"Surely the brokers should have done likewise on behalf of their clients?"

Mr Potter can be contacted at home on Winkfield Row (0344) 884878, or office, Camberley (0276) 63344 extension 366.

Mortgages: Some of the brokers who can still find them

Name	Address	Telephone
Peter Ames	2 Turf Street, Bodmin, Cornwall	0208 3806
Andrews Group	Andrews Financial Services, 24 Station Road, Redhill, Surrey	Redhill 72323
G. Buckingham	37a The Broadway, Ealing, London W5	01-579 7983
Campbell Broking & Finance Ltd	Nat West Bank Chambers, 151/153 High Street, Guildford	Guildford 38393
Gordon Hartfield & Associates	35 Hendon Way, Hendon, London	01-202 4755
John Halliday	Terminus House, Terminus St, Harlow, Essex	Harlow 32944
R. M. Leonard	35 Crosby Road North, Waterloo, Liverpool	0208313
Noble Lowndes	Norfolk House, Wellesley Road, Croydon CR9 3EB	01-686 2466
Securebound Mortgage Services	351/353 Chester Road, Castle Bromwich, Birmingham	Birmingham 722 2111 or 472 3448
Corporation of Mortgage Brokers	PO Box 101, Guildford, Surrey	Guildford 35786

UNIT TRUSTS-Where in 1983?

Berry Asset Management, winning professional advisor on The Times/Money Programme panel in 1982, offers an investment management service for portfolios of £15,000 upwards. For details, write or call:

Berry Asset Management Ltd, (Licensed dealers in securities) Brethenham House, Lancaster Place, London WC2E 7EN. Telephone: 01-379 6466.

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____ T25/6

BERRY ASSET MANAGEMENT

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	9 1/2 %
Barclays	9 1/2 %
BCCI	9 1/2 %
Consolidated Crds	10 %
C. Hoare & Co	9 1/2 %
Lloyds Bank	9 1/2 %
Midland Bank	9 1/2 %
Nat Westminster	9 1/2 %
TSB	9 1/2 %
Williams & Glyn's	9 1/2 %

* 7 day deposit on sums of under £10,000, 6% on £10,000 up to £20,000, 7% on £20,000 and over.

NEW FUND LAUNCH

Crescent Resources Fund

The Crescent Funds, managed by Edinburgh Fund Managers Limited, have a fine record in world markets, and an excellent reputation in the financial community, in companies involved in such industries as oil and gas, metals, gold and agricultural products.

The reason for this new Fund is one of simple confidence. Confidence that the world economy is starting to recover, and that as it does it will generate a rising demand for raw materials, including energy.

We believe the new Fund offers investors the opportunity to back proven management expertise in an area where substantial capital appreciation has occurred in the past.

Through investment in resource-based companies in other Funds, we have gained a lot of experience in the field, and this experience is now pooled in the management of one new Fund.

First Offer of Units at 25p each until July 8th 1983

To: Crescent Unit Trust Managers Limited, 4 Melville Crescent, Edinburgh EH3 7JB. Tel: 031-226 4381, 031-226 3452 (Dealers). (Registered Office: registered in Scotland no 51269)

If we wish to purchase units in Crescent Resources Fund to the value of £ _____ £

A cheque made payable to Crescent Unit Trust Managers Limited is enclosed (minimum £500).

If we are over 18 years of age.

If we would like distributions of income to be reinvested.

Please tick this box for details of how to exchange an existing portfolio for units in the fund.

Funds

When managers seem to sit on investment cash

When you make an investment in a managed fund, say a single premium bond or unit trust, you expect the money to be invested along the lines of the fund's stated objectives.

But should you be expected to wait months until the managers of the fund decide it is time to invest the cash? One reader has complained about a £15,000 holding in a Hambro Life bond, the US Property Fund.

The bond was bought on behalf of a relative when it was launched last October. The prospectus said that the new fund intended to buy US real estate. Mr Nigel Hawkes says: "Not a penny of the money has been invested in property yet."

About £2.5m has been raised by the fund since October and it is still all on sterling deposit. So while stock markets have been booming on both sides of the Atlantic, the return since October has been a paltry 6.5 per cent.

"I think it is scandalous," he says. "How can a fund take money like this and then just sit on it for nine months without moving a muscle? I thought the fund was a good idea because I wanted something in property but British property looked in the doldrums. I also liked the look of the dollar and wanted a currency hedge."

Margaret Drummond

Money back – at a price

Crown Life says the comparison drawn last week between the term assurance element in its Plan for Life, and London Life's convertible term policy is unfair, because people who insure through Crown Life will get some money back at the end of the term, whereas those who insure through London Life will not.

Crown Life's policy costs a lot more in the meantime, though. Take a 24-year-old wanting £40,000 worth of cover. With Crown Life, paying

Adrienne Gleeson

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At last! Good news for the Over-50's

In recent years, finding the right investment has become more and more difficult for the people to whom it tends to matter most – those over the age of 50. Building society rates, bank deposit rates, guaranteed income bond rates... all are just a mere shadow of what they were only a year or two ago.

Julian Gibbs Associates provides special investment advice for over-50's.

* If you are retiring within the next 15 years, you must make the most of every pound you invest now. By careful planning and making full use of tax concessions, it is possible to transform your standard of living for when you retire.

* If you are already retired, every pound matters even more. To stretch your fixed resources, you need to know where to find the best investments to match your circumstances.

As a first step, send the coupon now for your FREE copy of our latest Investment Action Report.

T3QB 25/6

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A member of the Reed Stockhouse Group.
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Please send my latest Investment Action Report and a Confidential Investment Brief.

Name _____

Address _____

County _____ Tel. No. _____

Present Income £ _____ Date of Birth _____ Tax Rate %

Lump sum amount available for investment £ _____

Amount available for regular saving £ _____ per year/month

Julian Gibbs Associates is a Licensed Dealer in Securities

JULIAN GIBBS ASSOCIATES

Building societies

Offend the bank manager for extra interest

Any private investor who keeps money in the bank on seven-day deposit after the end of this month must be a masochist.

The differential between the new building society investment rates announced this week and bank deposit rates is now so large that you cannot afford to

ignore it – however much you might worry about offending the bank manager.

From July 1, building

societies will be paying 7.5 per cent (basic rate tax paid).

extra 1 per cent on "extra

interest" accounts.

The before-tax equivalent rate for building society extra-interest accounts is just under 12 per cent – nearly double the miserable 6 per cent you will get from your bank.

Even the highly successful

money funds cannot compete unless you happen to be a non-

taxpayer, and for these investors NSB Investment Account now looks a better bet, in spite of the ludicrous constraints imposed by the way interest is

calculated.

The two tables tell the story.

Building society extra-interest accounts, now on offer from virtually all societies, are a best buy for all but the non-taxpayer.

For the higher-rate taxpayer, National Savings certificates with their tax-free return are still more attractive for anyone paying tax at 45 per cent or more, but your money is tied up for five years.

Similarly, for basic rate taxpayers income bonds offer 9 per cent but you will not be able to get at your money until 1988.

For those who do not need to

redeposit as ready money in a local building society.

This is false economy. The battle between the banks for new customers is so fierce that if you are subsequently turned down for a loan, you would have no difficulty in walking

across the road to another bank and getting the required overdraft – particularly if you were prepared to deposit your building society pass book as security for the loan.

Another disadvantage of bank deposits is the complicated way tax is calculated.

Income from bank deposit is usually taxed on a "previous year" basis with confusing rules for the years when you open an account and close it. It produces particular difficulties for people who are gradually running down their deposit account.

Bank monthly income accounts

	Interest rate	Notice	Minimum investment
Midland	9	28 days	£2,000
NatWest	9 1/2	1 mth	£2,000
Yorkshire	9	for deps	1 yr
Lloyds	9 1/4	for deps	2 yr
	9 1/2	1 mth	£2,500

*Fixed for term – other rates variable

Return on fixed interest investments

	Non taxpayer	30%	40%	45%	50%	55%	60%
Bank 7-day dep	6	4.2	3.6	3.3	3.0	2.7	2.4
Build soc ord acc	7.25	7.25	6.21	5.89	5.17	4.65	4.14
Build soc int acc	8.25	8.25	7.07	6.48	5.89	5.3	4.71
NSB invest acc	10.5	7.35	6.3	5.77	5.25	4.72	4.2
Money funds	9.4	6.58	5.64	5.17	4.7	4.23	3.76
Nat Savings Cert* Income bonds*	7.5 9.0	7.5 9.0	7.5 5.4	7.5 4.95	7.5 4.5	7.5 4.05	7.5 3.6

*These are both two-year investments – the others are all short-term.

*Net of basic rate tax

Building Society Bargains

	Interest rate	Notice	Min investment
Abbey Nat	7.75	7 days	–
Alliance	8.5	2 mths	£500
Anglia	8.25	1 mth	£500
Cheltenham & Gloucester	7.75	7 days	–
Cheltenham & Gloucester	8.25	–	£1,000
Guardian	9.25	6 mths	£1,000
Hendon	7.75	3 mths	£500
Herne Bay	8.75	3 mths	£500
Holmesdale	9.00	6 mths	£1,000
Mornington	7.5	–	–
Nat Counties Portman	8.75	2 mths	£1,000
Portsmouth	9.00	6 mths	£1,000
Wessex	8.3	–	–



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For full details of the High Interest Bank Account with Robert Fleming, Bankers please phone Save & Prosper on 0708-66966 or complete and return the coupon.

Robert Fleming & Co. Limited accepts deposits as principal and Save & Prosper Group Limited collects deposits as their agents.

* Gross annual interest earned assuming monthly withdrawals of interest, and that the interest rate remains at the daily rate at 23rd June 1983. The equivalent annual rate is 9.50% if interest is not withdrawn monthly. The daily rate varies with market conditions.

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To: Save & Prosper Group, Administration Centre, Hexagon House, 28 Western Road, Romford RM1 3LB.
Please send me full details of High Interest Bank Account.

Name _____
Address _____
Postcode _____

SAVE & PROSPER GROUP

Fancy owning a racehorse? This week saw the launch of Lord Oaksey's Thoroughbred Investment Company, and Isle of Man group which will invest in stallion shares, mares and fillies as well as breeding top quality yearlings for sale.

The company will be managed by Thoroughbred Managers Ltd, with Lord Oaksey as chairman, while the sole investment adviser is the British Bloodstock Agency, the largest specialist bloodstock agency in the world.

The company will be run "more or less" along the lines of a unit trust, say the managers which means that shares can be bought and sold at the underlying net asset value. Valuations will be made by the British Bloodstock Agency on a quarterly basis. Because of the nature of the breeding cycle, no redemptions will be allowed for the first 18 months.

Minimum investment is £1,000 and can be made through a stockbroker or other professional adviser. After the first £1 million shares have been placed, there will be a public offer (still at £1 per share) with newspaper advertisements and cut-out coupons.

But this does not appeal. Juliette Harrison has been looking at other ways of owning a racehorse.

A racehorse in training costs an average of £8,000 and 95 per cent will fail to earn their keep while half will win nothing at all.

These sobering statistics - which come from Mr John Biggs, director general of the Racehorse Owners' Association - taken with the fact that there is little variation in the running costs of a potential Derby winner with residual stallion riches and an elderly gelding battling his heart out in an insignificant seller, prove that fun not profit must be the owner's spur.

In 1971 the Jockey Club, appreciating that the joys of ownership would soon be a pipedream for all but a wealthy few, introduced racehorse syndication allowing up to 12 adults to enjoy the pleasure and at worst share the financial pain.

One of the first to take advantage of the ruling was Mr Ian Robertson, former Scottish rugby international, now covering the sport for the BBC.

Buying Ruby Special for 200 guineas, he sold a 12th share to 11 fellow players and for £10 per head per month (apart from the actual training, there are jockeys, vets, blacksmiths, insurance, transport and entry fees to be paid) they had a horse

which won four and was placed in six of its 11 races in 1972. Ruby Special was sold the



Lester Piggott on Admiral's Princess, one of the most successful syndicated horses

following year for 4,000 guineas (£42,200).

Mr Robertson and his friends continued and have now raced 15 horses, 12 of which have won. The best, Twickenham, cost 1,800 guineas, provided five years of pleasure and, after scoring in five of his eight 1982 starts at the age of six, has been

There are three ways to approach syndication. If, like Mr Robertson, you intend going it alone and have coerced 11 friends into joining you, the Federation for Bloodstock Agents will put you in touch with a reliable agent who will buy a horse at a recognised sale, usually in the 4,000-5,000 guinea range and, if necessary, recommend a trainer.

Most small or newly-established yards will welcome an approach and even some of the grander establishments are happy to oblige, provided the syndicate is properly run by one of the members. No yard wants its Sunday afternoons interrupted by 12 telephone calls demanding progress reports on a single, usually mediocre, horse.

Before the syndication is official, three or four of the shareholders, who must be registered owners (one time fee: £13.80) are appointed lessees of the horse, taking responsibility for its management and financial arrangements. A Syndicate agreement must then be drawn up and signed by all members who are required to read the relevant rules of racing - numbers 46 and 181 - which the Jockey Club, in Portman Square, London - will supply.

If you intend to stray from its guidelines, it is as well to have a solicitor to check that the final version conforms with the rules.

Provided all is in order, a registration cheque for £63.25 per horse accompanies the application, you can open within 24 hours an account at Wetherspoons to handle the outgoing entry fees and incoming prize money, and are ready to run.

Annual audited accounts must be circulated to all members of the syndicate and the Jockey Club, which has the power to call in the books at a fortnight's notice on pain of expulsion and must be notified of any share transfer. No individual may be a member or have any family or business interest in more than 12 syndicates at one time.

However, if the task of rounding up the people, doing the paper and liaison work and bearing the legal responsibility, seems too much like hard work, you can pay somebody to organize it for you - usually a trainer who specializes in syndicates, or a professional syndicate manager. The former will prove cheaper, the latter ought to keep you well informed.

Mr Ian Walker, a Newmarket trainer with a small string and full time secretary to handle his

syndicate, advertises in *The Sporting Life*. For him, syndication is a financial fact of life. "If I see a nice animal at the sales that my owners can't afford, I'll buy it and syndicate".

He charges £46 plus added tax for each 12th share, excluding travelling and entry

fees (slightly more than Mr Robertson's estimate of £37) and will sell the horse to the shareholders at £600 to £1,000 over its purchase price - a sum largely swallowed up by advertising costs.

His motive is not short-term profit but to attract potential clients who may eventually purchase the horse outright. He is extremely careful therefore, to select a sound and promising animal for them.

These horses will usually be sought as a speculation at the September sales and they can take six months to be "filled". If there are any shares over at the start of the next year's flat season, the trainer may use

Members must be prepared to suffer setbacks

themselves, rather than prevent the horse running.

Many are wary to the heavy gambling element attracted by the advertisements in the racing press. As one put it: "You get a lot of riff-raff - they don't care about the horse, it's all inside information and they're never off the phone".

The other way to avoid wrestling with the rules and regulations yourself is to go to a syndicate manager like Mr Henry Ponsonby, of Shefford Bloodstock Services, Berkshire, who assembles his shareholders

across the country, you are unlikely to get all 12 wishing to race the same day. Mr Ponsonby, in the case of Admiral's Ruler which ran one week at Lingfield, Surrey, and a fortnight later at Edinburgh - heavy on the travelling costs, but enabling a completely different set of admirers to cheer him on.

One final point. Should you find the prospect of British racing too limiting and yearn for the glamour of Longchamp and Deauville - take care. While the French Jockey Club welcomes syndicates, the French Government, assuming they will make a profit, tax any winnings. In Britain, the authorities assume you will lose, and do not.

through racecourse contacts and newspaper advertisements.

Since 1977, he has syndicated 53 horses which have won 56 races and £100,000 in prize money.

The successful Admiral's Princess, cost its owners £1,850 per 12th share, earned £22,000 on the racecourse and was sold to the US for £50,000. If you deduct two years' running costs, her shareholders would have come out with a little under £5,000 clear profit.

Mr Ponsonby's fee of £70 a month per 12th share covers all expenses, including transport and entries - the latter can come to well over £1,000 a year - and an inbuilt management fee of about £6.

As a businessman, Mr Ponsonby does not deny taking a profit which comes at the outset with a healthy mark-up on what he has paid for the horse. The sum is in the region of 30 per cent and pays the insurance, initial upkeep and advertising, the final profit margin depending on how quickly the syndicate is formed and ready to take over.

Mrs Andrew Simpson's rival firm at Marlborough, Wiltshire, which has syndicated 17 horses of which nine have won 38 races since 1976, charges a monthly £60 per 12th share. He relies mainly on advertising to attract members and is currently using the exploits of five-year-old Wet Bob - four wins as many weeks this spring as

Syndicate managers supply an illustrated newsletter and regular bulletins, telephone with the running plans and deal with the accounting and legal side. They will also supply the trainer and the horse, in which they retain one share. It runs in their colours and name.

Syndicate members must be prepared to suffer setbacks. Wet Bob, for instance, went 17 months without a placing before his run of success while Aleutis a current Simpson two-year-old, had to be gelded in February within six weeks of syndication at £775 a share. The owners were apparently "marvellous" about it.

One conundrum could be the division of 12 eager owners into the two complimentary badges that offer admittance to the racecourse, the paddock and the winner's enclosure.

However, in practice, there are very few problems. The vast majority of Britain's 59 racecourses offer four passes per syndicate, aware of the fee-paying entourage that inevitably accompanies the proud owners.

Beside, with a catchment area covering the country, you are unlikely to get all 12 wishing to race the same day. Mr Ponsonby, in the case of Admiral's Ruler which ran one week at Lingfield, Surrey, and a fortnight later at Edinburgh - heavy on the travelling costs, but enabling a completely different set of admirers to cheer him on.

On final point. Should you find the prospect of British racing too limiting and yearn for the glamour of Longchamp and Deauville - take care. While the French Jockey Club welcomes syndicates, the French Government, assuming they will make a profit, tax any winnings. In Britain, the authorities assume you will lose, and do not.

Juliette Harrison

FIRST PUBLIC OFFER... 2 BONUS...
OFFER CLOSES JUNE 30

F & C

Assets under Group management exceed £750 million.

F & C Unit Management Limited

F & C Unit Management Ltd is a wholly owned subsidiary of F & C Management Ltd which provides investment management and advice to Group funds of approximately £750 million. These funds include investment trust companies, pension funds, unit trusts, offshore funds and charities. At the centre of the Group lies the Foreign and Colonial Investment Trust formed in 1868.

The Group is independent; its sole business is that of investment management and therefore it has no conflict of interests.

3 Unique Offers
TO
Unit Trust Investors...

from a Group with an enviable track record and over a century of investment experience which until now was only available to specialised and substantial private investors.

Bonus Offer

Until June 30th 1983 the managers are offering a special introductory discount of 2% on all three unit trusts.

Low Annual Management Charges

The annual charge is 1.1% (+ VAT) of the value of the Income and Capital Funds and 1.4% (+ VAT) of the value of the Far Eastern Unit Trust.

How to Invest

Simply complete the coupon below indicating how much you wish to invest in any one or all of the funds, and which you choose. Units will be allocated to you at the offer price ruling (less the 2% discount on the day of receipt).

Investors are reminded that the price of units, and the income from them, can go down as well as up and investments should be regarded as medium to long term.

Investment Policy

The fund will focus on companies offering prospects of sustained growth in earnings and dividends. These are some of the areas which appear particularly attractive for the 1980's.

Micro-electronics - The silicon chip (and increasingly now the gallium arsenide chip) has proved to have numerous applications. As the power of the chip increases and its price falls new applications will open up to the myriad of opportunities that have already sprung.

Biotechnology - The harnessing of genetic engineering to the production of chemicals and drugs is in its infancy. However, the potential is as dynamic as that of micro-electronics.

Telecommunications - The forthcoming privatisation of British Telecom and the splitting up of AT&T in the USA, coupled with the convergence of computers and communications products are making this a very exciting area.

Security - Crime is Britain's fastest growing industry. Commercial properties have more sophisticated protection and this is certain to continue. Even more exciting prospects are emerging for companies specialising in the domestic market.

Investment Policy

The F & C Group has over a hundred years of international investment expertise, skilled in identifying growth companies throughout the world.

Information about companies will come from our wide range of broking contacts and also through meetings and discussions with the companies themselves.

As a guide, the offer price on June 22 was 49.1p per unit.

F & C Unit Management Limited

1 Lawrence Pountney Hill, London EC4R 0BA

We wish to take advantage of your 2% introductory discount offer and to invest in one or more of the following F & C Funds at the price ruling on the day following receipt of this application. (Minimum investment per fund is £500.)

F & C Income Fund

F & C Capital Fund

A cheque is enclosed made payable to F & C Unit Management Ltd. This offer is not open to residents of the Republic of Ireland.

Surname: Mr/Mrs/Ms

Block Capitals Please

First Name/s

Address

Post code

Signature

Date

(In the case of joint applications all applicants must sign and attach their names and addresses.)

*Please tick box if you would like details sent to you. Share Exchange Scheme Monthly Savings Plan

What do investments in natural resources offer?
Ours offer increased dividends.

We've had a good year at TR Natural Resources Investment Trust. The net asset value of each ordinary share is up by over 25%; pre-tax revenues by a significant 23%. Despite a large increase in tax payable the earnings increase of 22% was satisfactory.

Investing in companies involved in the natural resources sector will enable us to benefit from improving international economic conditions. Our carefully selected portfolio contains a large number of cyclical investments which traditionally derive enhanced profits from higher commodity prices and increased activity during a period of business upturn.

We anticipate that our next dividend will be not less than this year's, which itself was over 10% higher than the previous year's and reflected our continuing policy of giving shareholders a satisfactory and steady increase in income.

Our Annual Report will tell you more about us and our expectations. You are invited to send for your copy.

To Company Secretary: TR Natural Resources Investment Trust PLC, Mermaid House, 2 Puddle Dock, London, EC4V 8AT.
Please send me a copy of your 1982 Report and Accounts

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____

TR Natural Resources Investment Trust PLC
A MEMBER OF THE TOUCHE REMNANT MANAGEMENT GROUP
TOTAL FUNDS UNDER GROUP MANAGEMENT EXCEED £1,900 MILLION



Up to 1.50

FAMILY MONEY

Unit-links
Route to
tax-free
benefits

What do you do with the lump sum that comes your way when your life policies mature? If you do not need the money to settle the overdraft, chances are you will invest it and pay tax on the income generated.

Some of the more recent endowment policies offer the facility to take a series of partial surrenders tax free.

The drawback is that the return on leaving your money invested in a conventional endowment is dependent on bonus declarations.

Some insurers do, however, offer an interesting alternative. Friends Provident, National Provident, Norwich Union, Scottish Amicable, Scottish Widows and Standard Life allow the proceeds of maturing endowment policies to be transferred immediately in a unit-linked single premium bond, with the resulting bond becoming a qualifying policy. This means that the proceeds of the unit-linked bond can be taken totally tax free.

Conventional non-qualifying single premium bonds can offer an income facility free of basic rate tax, but the proceeds, if you cash in, are subject to higher rates of tax.

The advantage of this qualifying single premium unit-linked alternative is that it has all the benefits of a unit-linked contract you can keep tabs on your investment, switch from one fund to another if the investment outlook changes, and generally "manage" your money) with all the tax advantages of a qualifying policy.

EXTRA HIGH INTEREST
BONUS SHARE ACCOUNT
7.50% = 10.71% * Gross
Minimum investment £100. Only one month's notice of
withdrawal, or immediate withdrawal under penalty.

LONDON SHARE ACCOUNT **6.75% = 9.64%**
No notice of withdrawal required

SUPER BONUS SHARE ACCOUNT **8.00% = 11.42%**
Minimum investment £500. Six months' notice of withdrawal
required or two months' notice under penalty

Plus 'EASY ACCESS BOND' Account
(one year term) Minimum investment £500

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Address: T15

Insurance
Winners and losers in
Lloyd's league table

For members of Lloyd's of London, the exclusive insurance club, next Thursday is the last day you can resign from your syndicates and apply to join other - hopefully more profitable - ones.

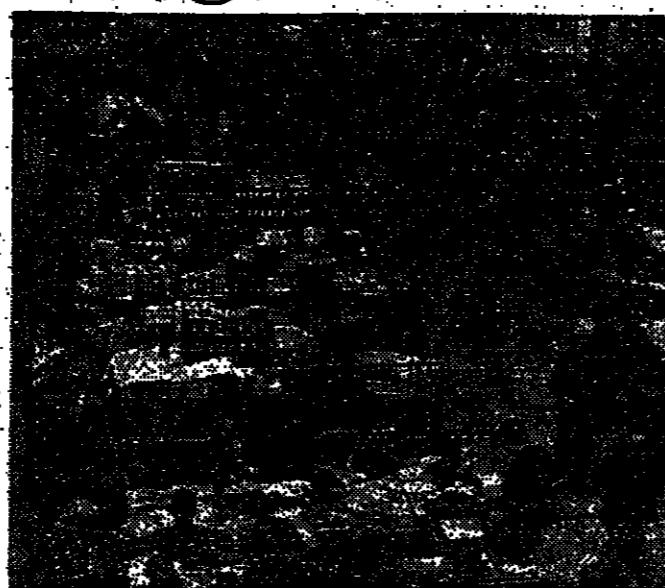
But how can you find out whether your syndicates have done well compared with others? By joining the Association of Members of Lloyd's.

The biggest advantage of membership of the association is access to the league table of syndicates' results, sent to members each year. The latest set, giving details of syndicates' profitability for the 1980 account, has just been published, and members are now hastily comparing their own "cheques" with those issued, or expected to be issued by other syndicates, to see if it is worthwhile making a move.

The Association of Members of Lloyd's (AML) does not yet cover the whole field. It has to rely on syndicates' results being supplied voluntarily. At the moment, 110 syndicates out of 417 are covered by the survey, but this accounts for about 50 per cent of Lloyd's capacity, according to the association, because many Lloyd's syndicates are small and underwritten very little.

The average return for the 1980 account is about £900 for each £10,000 "line" written, compared with approximately £600 for the 1979 account. But hidden within these averages there is a wide range of results.

The top performer was syndicate 290, with an estimated



Lloyd's of London: deadline looms for switching syndicates

return of £4,543 for each £10,000 line while members of syndicate 223 are being asked to dig into their pockets to the tune of £3,029 (estimated) to cover syndicate's losses.

Members of syndicate 127, where Mr Ian Postgate was chief underwriter until his suspension last year, will pick up a cheque for about £1,725. His rival, Mr Stephen Merrett, is handing over £1,065 to his syndicate members.

Overall, 1980 was a good year for Lloyd's members with only 12 of the 110 syndicates monitored by the AML showing a loss. Within that, motor syndicates did best, with an average 12.3 per cent return compared with 7.1 per cent in 1979. Marine syndicates showed the greatest improvement, nearly doubling profitability from 5.6 per cent in 1979 to 11 per cent in 1980. Members of aviation syndicates have come off worst, losing on average 1.3 per cent in 1979 and 1.8 per cent in 1980. The figures are all AML estimates.

Further details from the Association of Members of Lloyd's, c/o Chancery, Wheatsheaf House, Carmelite Street, London EC4Y 0AX. Tel: 01-353 8391.

Top Ten
Results for 1980 - Return on each £10,000 Line

Syndicate Number	Underwriter	Underwriting profit/loss	Capital appreciation	Total return
290*	Walker	2,870	1,736	4,543
728	Evensett	3,349	936	4,284
177	Smith	367	3,870	4,237
145	Compton	1,914	559	2,473
439*	Renown	1,017	1,228	2,245
561	Patrick	239	1,997	2,236
406*	Pateam	—	—	2,200
820*	Griffiths	626	1,491	2,117
298*	Andrews	1,729	349	2,078
700*	Denby	—	—	2,078

Source: Association of Members of Lloyd's
*Estimates supplied by syndicate

UP TO
12.28%* = **17.54%**
TAX FREE
A regular savings plan
bringing high returns
TAX FREE

If you are aged between 16 and 70 and married or with dependent children we can offer you a rare opportunity. We'll help you save a handsome lump sum over a 10 year period and give you up to £2,000 life assurance protection too. In addition, at the end of the plan we'll pay out all your savings plus the interest you've earned entirely free of tax. We call this opportunity the Leeds Friendly Assurance Plan.

How does the scheme work?

You pay a regular monthly or yearly premium for 10 years to Homeowners Friendly Society. They boost your premium with a special tax concession, deducting a small amount for life cover and management expenses. The rest is invested in a special account with the Leeds and starts earning interest immediately. Ten years later you get both your savings and your interest back without a penny owed to the tax-man. The higher the rate of tax you normally pay the more valuable this investment will prove.

How much can you save?

There are a number of different plans available, each with a set premium. Because the scheme is so profitable the maximum amount you can save is limited to £20.60 a month or £247.26 a year per investor (double for a married couple). Each of the plans gives a very good return although the exact return you get at the end of 10 years depends on your age, variations in interest rates and whether or not you pay an annual premium (this gives a higher return than a monthly premium). For details take a look at the table opposite which also lists examples of potential returns.

Plan	Sum Assured £	Net Monthly Premium	Net Annual Premium
Half Plan	500	—	61.81
Ordinary Plan	1,000	10.30	123.63
Ordinary + Half Plan	1,500	15.45	185.44
Superplan	2,000	20.60	247.26
2 x Superplan*	4,000	41.20	494.52

Annual Premium	Accumulated value after 10 years £	Tax Free Yield	Gross Equivalent*
123.63	2,469	12.28%	17.54%
247.26	4,938	12.28%	17.54%

*Available only to married couples.

Examples are for investors aged 16-39 and assume current rates of interest and tax relief are maintained. Excellent yields are also available for investors aged over 40. Further details available on request.

*Equivalent to 3.6% tax-free.

To: John Handforth, The Leeds Permanent Building Society, FREEPOST, Permanent House, The Headrow, Leeds LS1 1SQ. Please send me details of the Leeds Friendly Assurance Plan without obligation.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Age: _____

Sex: _____

Signature: _____

I'm 16 or over _____

I'm 18 or over _____

I'm 21 or over _____

I'm 25 or over _____

I'm 30 or over _____

I'm 35 or over _____

I'm 40 or over _____

I'm 45 or over _____

I'm 50 or over _____

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I'm 570 or over _____

Friendly policy for high taxpayers

It is not necessary to take up residence in Liechtenstein or the Bahamas to take profits from your investments without paying any tax at all. All you have to do is to find a tax-exempt friendly society, though there are severe limitations on the amount that you can invest (enough to produce life assurance cover of £2,000), and you can only do it if you have dependants (wife, husband, or children under the age of 18).

Savers Assurance, the tax-exempt offshoot of Time Assurance, has linked the life assurance element, not to the usual units or building society deposits, but to gilts (and possibly equities) profits on which will accrue to members of the society in the hope of old-fashioned reversionary bonuses.

Adrienne Gleeson

Even more interest.

From 1 July 1983
CHELTONHAM GOLD
8.25% 11.79%
net gross.

Still no strings.

From 1 July we'll be putting up our interest rates by a full 1%. So Cheltenham Gold, which already pays extra interest annually on £1,000 or more, will be an even better deal. Even if you fall below £1,000, you'll still earn 2.5% net 10.36% gross*.

And you'll still get 100% freedom to withdraw money immediately without any advance notice or loss of interest.

Cheltenham Gold Monthly Interest

Invest £5,000 or more in a Cheltenham Gold Monthly Interest Account and we'll pay you the new higher rate of interest monthly, direct to your bank. Better still, add the interest to your account each month and you'll earn the annual equivalent of **8.57% net* 12.24% gross†**

At your branch, Or by post-Free.

You'll find your local branch in Yellow Pages. If there's no branch handy, use the coupon to open either of the Cheltenham Gold Accounts by Post. You can pay in or withdraw as you like. We pay the first class postage.

Whatever you choose, it's your first step to even more interest, but still with total freedom.

To C&G Building Society, PO Box 124 FREEPOST, Cheltenham Glos. GL5 17 PW.
I enclose _____ to open a Gold By Post Account (Minimum £1,000, Maximum
£30,000, Joint Account £60,000).
I enclose _____ to open a Gold Monthly Interest Account By Post (Minimum £500, Maximum
£30,000, Joint Account £60,000). Please send more details.

(Block Capitals)

Postcode _____ RTT

C&G Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society

Chief Office: Cheltenham House, Clarence Street, Cheltenham, Glos. GL5 3JR. Tel: 0242 361616
Member of the Building Societies Association. Over 450 Branches and Agents. Assets exceed £1432 million.
*The rate of interest paid on the Cheltenham Gold Monthly Interest Account may vary from that paid on the Cheltenham Gold Account. †Gross equivalent for basic rate taxpayers.

MORE FEATURES AS STANDARD

1983 Product features on 1615/17/20 models now include:

- 8 speed gearbox and heavy duty axle (on 1615/17 models)
- Power-assisted clutch (on 1617 models)
- Power-assisted steering
- Laminated windshield
- Steering column lock
- Thermoviscous fan
- Reversing lamp
- Multi-purpose socket/cigar lighter

Effective savings up to £1300

Delivery weights referred to are a comparison of today's maximum retail price of the latest specification Cargos model compared with the maximum retail price of a similarly specified model in September 1982. The model compared has a 2.5 litre 16 valve diesel engine and manual gearbox. GVM 16 tonnes. CYL 152. BHP engine.

Wines

Invest in vintage reserves with free cellar storage

The greatest obstacle to wine investment - not having a cellar - is overcome by the Unit Wine Investment Plan, run by Justerini and Brooks Ltd, a Grand Metropolitan subsidiary.

Its selection of various cellars of wine, first made in 1969 and published for 1983/84 this week, consists of a range of wines of recent vintages which need time to mature.

The 'units' containing the finer wines should also show a healthy capital appreciation after five or six years in reserve. Free storage is offered, dependent upon the anticipated maturity, until May 1988.

Another advantage of the

scheme is the facility to purchase by monthly banker's order. Unit One, for example, costs £15 per month.

The first unit will make for pleasant drinking in one or two years. It consists of three claret, from the early maturing year of 1979 and one from the youthful 1981, a red Rhône, and a Kabinett 1981 Palatinate.

The second unit, the most popular last year and costing £25 monthly, consists of five dozen bottles: a single estate Côteau-neuf 1979, three lesser known clarets and a lovely first growth 1981 Châtaignier.

'Unit de luxe' at £40 monthly is more up-market: Oporto

bottled Sandeman 1977 vintage port, fine grand cru 1981 Chablis, and three château-bottled clarets which include Léoville-Poyferre 1981.

For real auction room potential, Justerini's Imperial Unit, at £62 monthly or an outright payment of £706.80, is the most suitable: a dozen bottles of 1981 Château Latour, 1981 Palmer, one of the most sought after clarets) and domaine bottled 1978 Corton from Louis Latour.

Full details from Justerini and Brooks Ltd, 61 St James's Street, London, SW1A 1LZ and at 39 George Street, Edinburgh.

Conal Gregory

Medical cover

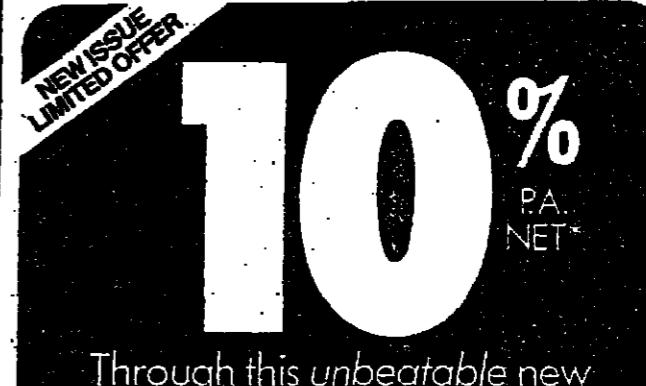
Bonus for the healthy

for years without making a claim were dissatisfied with their continually increasing premiums. The offer of no-claims bonuses could induce them to continue buying private medical insurance.

The company will offer an initial 20 per cent no-claims discount, increasing to 40 per cent after five years without a claim. A claim would mean reverting back to a two-year discount, worth 20 per cent off the premium.

Extra discounts will be offered to groups joining the new scheme, and a further 15 per cent discount will be available to individuals willing to pay the first £100 of their medical costs.

Pat Healy



Through this unbeatable new GUARANTEED INCOME PLAN

The yield is equivalent to 14.3% gross if you pay tax at 30%. If your tax rate is higher, the return is equally attractive e.g. for 50% tax payers the yields are typically 9.1% net and 18.2% gross. Quarterly income may be paid on investments in excess of £10,000.

In addition to a high guaranteed income you also have excellent prospects for capital appreciation. Your money will be managed by the oldest Merchant Bank in the City of London - in the three years ended April 1983 the investment fund used for this Plan produced an increase in capital of 71%.

To take full advantage of this limited offer of a high guaranteed income and capital growth prospects, return the coupon - without obligation - right away.

R.J. TEMPLE & COMPANY INC

Accountants and Investment Consultants, Head Office: Temple House, 37 Grand Parade, Brighton BN2 2QA. Telephone: (0273) 673136. Please send me full details of this Guaranteed Income Plan by return.

Name _____

Address _____

Birth Date _____

Tel: _____ I have available to invest £_____

NOW THERE'S EVEN MORE GOING FOR CARGO 16 TONNERS.



There's always been a lot going for the versatile Cargo 16 tonners.

There's a wide range of engines from 130-204 bhp, all offering excellent fuel economy and outstanding reliability. And when it comes to driveline combinations, nobody gives you more choice to best suit your needs - for example at 16 tonnes we offer the choice of 7 gearboxes, 8 single speed and 3 two speed axle ratios.

Then there's a range of strong chassis which give excellent payloads at 16 tonnes GVM.

This all adds up to substantial savings on total cost of ownership, compared with our key competitors.

FORD CARGO
6-22.5 TONNES

BRITAIN'S BEST SELLING TRUCK.

Now Cargo 16 tonners have even more going for them, with higher standard specifications on all models.

What's more, Truck Extra Cover, a second year optional warranty for major driveline and steering components, is available now for all Cargos.

Talk to your local Ford Truck Specialist Dealer.

about the loan of a demonstrator vehicle - you'll find out just how much there is going for Cargo. And he'll tell you about the great deals he can offer.

Ford gives you more.



For further information please write to Ford Motor Co Ltd, Dept. TSM1, Information Service, Freeport, Gloucester, Glos. GL7 9RR. I would like to arrange the loan of a demonstrator vehicle (tick box).

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No place in the sun for the princely, underdog willow-wallahs of India

By John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent

No one who saw the way India disposed of England on Wednesday would dismiss their chances of beating West Indies in the final of the Prudential World Cup at Lord's today. At the same time no one in his right mind will confidently expect them to win.

What makes an Indian victory so unlikely is the venue, not the occasion - the Indians are well capable of rising to that. It is no coincidence that India's two most notable victories in this year's competition have been at Old Trafford, in conditions that might have been made to suite them.

They beat England there in the semi-finals and West Indies in their opening match. With the temperature near the 80s, the ball keeping low and their compatriots on all sides of them, cheering wildly, the Indians must have found Manchester on Wednesday a home from home. They took full advantage of it, not only to beat England, but to outplay them. The manner in which India scored their last 80 runs was brilliant.

The trouble for them today is that the Lord's pitch will have more pace and bounce. I can think of nowhere in England that the West Indians would rather be playing the match. Their fast bowlers love it there, as do their batsmen. The very conditions which will sharpen the West Indian attack may expose the comparative plainness of India's. Bowling at Lord's makes Roberts and Holding feel young again. Marshall is young, anyway, and very fast.

It will be West Indies' fifth one-day international at Lord's. The others were the two

Lord's teams

WEST INDIES From G. H. Lloyd (captain), C. G. Greenidge, D. L. Haynes, L. A. Higgins, D. M. Hinds, S. F. A. Joseph, D. L. Johnson, M. D. Marshall, A. M. E. Roberts, J. Garner, M. A. Holding, W. W. Daniel, W. W. Davis.

INDIA From Kapil Dev (captain), D. S. Gavaskar, K. Srikkanth, V. Aswath, M. Venkateswaran, M. Amarnath, V. Srinivasan, S. M. Pillai, K. Azad, R. M. Sharma, S. M. Madan Lal, S. M. H. Kirmani, S. B. Sandhu.

Umpires: H. D. Bird and B. J. Meyer.

India's hopes rely on their doing the basic things well. In the semi-finals their fielding, scrappy to start with, became pretty good. The accuracy with which Amarnath and Jitendra Azad bowled is four-fifths of all good bowling. As for India's batting, the stroke players are there if the innings is given anything of a start. Here Gavaskar's form and mood will count for a lot. He has had a poorish year for him and may not be quite the player he was of genuine speed. However, at Old Trafford on Wednesday the signs were returning of a little wizard at work.

If a final between England and West Indies had seemed the proper climax to a successful fortnight, chauvinism was partly the reason for that. Now we

can enjoy with more detachment what will be a different sort of match. Where England would have been pitting their "professionalism", such as it is, against the might of the West Indians, India will bank on what Charles Fry used to admire as their unequalled instinct for the artistry of cricket. As the underdogs, India will have the support of the uncommitted. In India the whole nation is said to be agog with excitement; its collective ear to the transistor.

In 1975 and again in 1979 West Indies had their anxious moments before coming through to win. On both occasions they were put in, first by Ian Chappell, then by Mike Brearley. Against Australia they were 50 for three before Lloyd made a hundred; against England they were 99 for four before Richards did so, with some breathtaking support from Collis King.

The first of the two finals, which ended at 8.45, was the most famous of all games of one-day cricket. It was also the most fateful. Shown live on Australian television, it gave someone somewhere the idea that, where the Americans had baseball, the Australians could have World Series Cricket.

That match ended like last Wednesday's semi-final between England and India, with the expatriates in the crowd overjoyed by their side's success, bursting on to the field when the match was over. Should this happen today I hope that neither of the umpires sees himself as a kind of vigilante in the way that Osler did at Old Trafford.

"When I am batting or bowling," Kapil says, "I have never been a consistent run-

Boycott's century just not enough

By Gerald Richmond

SHEFFIELD: Derbyshire (22 points) beat Yorkshire (4) by 22 runs.

Derbyshire's first championship victory over Yorkshire for 26 years was closer than might have been expected on a pitch reported as unfit for first-class cricket because Geoffrey Boycott batted with such supreme skill. He carried his bat for 12, the 133rd century of his career and, surely, under the conditions, one of his best.

Until they had picked up the three remaining wickets yesterday, Derbyshire could never be entirely certain but a diving gully catch by Fowler removed Dennis and they were out.

This was the eleventh wicket, at a cost of 89, in the match for Ole Mortensen, the 25-year-old Danish fast bowler who gave up his job as a tax assistant to try his luck in English cricket. He has already proved to be a bowler with strength and stamina and has taken 27 wickets in seven championship games. Derbyshire's young captain, Kim Barnett, who in leading a side to victory over Yorkshire achieved something which eluded his nine predecessors, has already come to rely on Mortensen. The Dane and the West Indian Michael Holding should form a formidable partnership.

Boycott delayed the start for 90 minutes to allow the 2000 spectators to start from his match-winning 62, soon lost two more wickets. Stevenson played an irresponsible swat at Mortensen, giving a gentle catch to cover, and Ellingsworth, playing forward, was bowled by Moir. Boycott completed his hundred after three and a half hours and Dennis batted far more sensibly than some that had gone before as he shared a last-wicket stand of 35.

DERBYSHIRE First innings 225 (K J Barnett 62, C Morris 49, G. Boycott 14, J. Dennis 55, R. Carrick 7 for 49).

YORKSHIRE First innings 118 (O Mortensen 5 for 27, D G Morris 4 for 45).

Second innings

G. Boycott not out 112
R J Lamb & B. Moir 10

C J Adams & T. P. Moir 15
D G Morris 10
J D Dennis 8
L J Ballance 2 Moir 44

J D Lamb & B. Moir 10

G B Stevenson & B. Mortensen 3
T B. Moir 10

S. Dennis & C. Morris 11
Extras (3 b, 5 w, 0-2-3).

Total 276

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-8, 2-21, 3-26, 4-32, 5-125, 6-157, 7-192, 8-197, 9-198, 10-203.

BOWLING: Mortensen 24.1-3-62-5; Tum-

lin 11.3-37-0; Moir 34.3-114-3; Miller 1.0-7-0.

Umpires: R Julian and M J Kitchen.

The pitch at Abbeydale Park, Sheffield, has been reported as "unfit for first-class cricket" by the umpires. Ray Julian and Mervyn Kitchen. They had previously requested that Bernard Flack, the TCCB inspector of pitches, should visit the ground to make an assessment. Mr Flack has sent samples of soil for analysis to Aberystwyth University.

Pocock opts for pace and Sussex stand firm

By Alan Ross

BASINGSTOKE: Hampshire (7pts)

points) beat Sussex (4) by 22 runs.

Having declared 69 ahead at their overnight score, Hampshire had either to bowl out Sussex cheaply, or feed them and hope to be set a feasible target. Rather unenterprisingly Pocock, once he became plain, had previously requested that Bernard Flack, the TCCB inspector of pitches, should visit the ground to make an assessment. Mr Flack has sent samples of soil for analysis to Aberystwyth University.

It was late in the afternoon before a slow bowler was allowed an over, and by that time Sussex were 115 ahead with seven wickets standing.

Barclay and Parker both completed sixies, a rare occurrence struck an assortment of wicket-sizes and the game ground to a standstill.

In weather calling for overcasts, Mendis and Heath put on 53 before Heath mishandled Stevenson and was caught in the region of long stop. Mendis was caught at second slip and then Colin Wells, leg before to Nicholas, acquired his third duck in four innings.

In the first, Hampshire, if Sussex had bat as indifferently as they had done in their first innings, appeared to have a chance. Barclay, however, looked intent on some necessary practice, and Parker, even more subdued, followed suit.

In due course, Barclay disclosed his square cut to be in working order and twice he drove Malone in something like his old style through the covers. Parker, too, unfolded his off drive after pushing defensively forward for two hours. As tea approached, he was caught at the wicket of Stevenson for 58, after he and Barclay had put on 122.

All this time, there was medium pace at both ends and the most violent contact came when Barclay, going for a third run, collided with the innocently grazing square leg and did a double somersault.

Weekend cricket fixtures

Prudential World Cup Final

England v West Indies (10.45-2.30)

County championship

Cheshire v Derbyshire; Middlesex v Essex; Essex v Sussex

BRISTOL: Gloucestershire v Hampshire

CANTERBURY: Kent v Northamptonshire

LEICESTER: Leicestershire v Glamorgan

NOTTINGHAM: Nottinghamshire v Northants

NOTTINGHAM

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS AND IN MEMORIAM ... £2.25 a line (minimum 3 lines). Announcements authenticated by the name and permanent address of the sender. Please send to: THE TIMES, 200 Grey's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EE. or to: Mrs. G. M. Guy, Matron (subscribers only) or 01-837 3311 or 01-837 3333.

Announcements can be received by telephone between 9.00am and 12.00pm, from Monday to Friday, on Saturday between 9.00am and 12.00pm. For publication the following day, phone by 12.00pm.

FORTHCOMING MARRIAGES, WEDDINGS, ETC on Court and Social Page. No entries.

Court and Social Page announcements must not be accepted by telephone.

GIVING THANKS always for all those of us God and the Father in the flesh of our Lord Jesus Christ. Ephesians 6: 23.

BIRTHS

DE LA MUNTA. - On June 19 to Lindsay and Michael, at St. John's Church, (delegates Elizabeth and Eleanor Jane).
GRIFFITHS. - On June 19 to Sir Geoffrey Hospital, London, a son, Christopher, and David, a son, Christopher (delegates David and David), a son, Christopher (delegates David and David).
LUZZETTI. - On June 19 at St. Peter's Hospital, Wimborne SW20, a son, Francesco-Maria, a son, Pietro (delegates Robert Dylan).
MELLIES. - On June 19 to Jennifer Hale Webster, and Simon, a son, Peter (delegates Jennifer Hale Webster).
GIBSON. - To Alastair, a son, James Edward born on June 19.

PERRIN. - To Charles and Anthony, on 21st June, 1983, a son, Russell (delegates Charles and Anthony).
SCARF. - On June 17, at West Middlesex Hospital, London, a son, Karen and Keith, a daughter, Naomi (delegates Karen and Keith).
TATTLE. - To Jill (delegates Jill and Colin), on June 16, a son, Timothy Edward born on June 16.

WOOD. - On June 19th at Hatherleigh, a son, Lee Edward, a daughter, Sarah Elizabeth Thomas.

BIRTHDAYS

COWELL, LAURA (scruffy daughter, "mother" in "nursery") on Sunday Love Paddington. 26th June.

HAYMAN, SUSANNA JOY - 100th birthday of a much-loved Dad & Jo (Dundee). 26th June.

MARRIAGES

BRADLEY-HOLE, GILBERT. - On June 23 to Mrs. Margaret Hole, of Bradley-Hole of Hove, East Sussex, and Mrs. Karen, Gilbert, of Beckenham, Kent.

CAMPBELL - KAMAL. - On May 27 to Mrs. Campbell of Sharps Place, Kent and Mrs. Kamal of London.

FRITH. - COLE, JANE. - On June 23 to Shirley-on-Thames, Thirteenth Edwin Frith and Jane Cole.

NOVAK-WATSON. - On June 1983 in Munich, Boles Novak of Bisenz, Austria, to Christine Watson, of London.

DEATHS

CLARK. - On June 23, 1983, peacefully at Brixton, Margaret Ann, 80, mother of Alan Clark and Stephen. Services at St. Wilfrid's Church, Brixton. Interment at Brixton Cemetery, June 29, at 2.30 pm. Followed by a service at St. Wilfrid's. Flowers may be sent to Parliament, 4/6 Montefiore Rd., Hove.

DECKER. - On June 22nd, 1983. Dr. Decker, 76 years old, died at Lower Anderson, New Jersey. Coroner's husband of Roma, father of Dr. Decker, Dr. Decker, Dr. Decker, Coroner, Wednesday, June 21st. Services at St. John's Cemetery, Lower Anderson, New Jersey. Interment at Lower Anderson, New Jersey. Dr. Decker, 76, died on June 29th, 1983, at 2.30 pm. Followed by a service at St. Wilfrid's. Flowers may be sent to Parliament, 4/6 Montefiore Rd., Hove.

EDWARDS. - On June 18, 1983, peacefully at home, David Elmer, 80, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward and Dorothy Edwards at Sugats Nether, New Jersey. Interment at Lower Anderson, New Jersey. Dr. Elmer, 80, died on June 29th, 1983, at 2.30 pm. Followed by a service at St. Wilfrid's. Flowers may be sent to Parliament, 4/6 Montefiore Rd., Hove.

EDWARD. - On June 22nd, 1983, after many years of incapacity and illness, born with paraplegia, courage and character, William Edward, beloved wife of Celia. Her passing is a great loss to all who knew her. Services at New Mynnes Parish Church, New Mynnes, Parkgate, Herts, on Monday June 26th, followed by cremation at New Mynnes Parish Church, New Mynnes, Parkgate, Herts, on Tuesday June 27th, followed by a service at New Mynnes Parish Church, New Mynnes, Parkgate, Herts, on Wednesday June 28th, followed by cremation at New Mynnes Parish Church, New Mynnes, Parkgate, Herts, on Thursday June 29th, followed by a service at New Mynnes Parish Church, New Mynnes, Parkgate, Herts, on Friday June 30th, followed by cremation at New Mynnes Parish Church, New Mynnes, Parkgate, Herts, on Saturday June 31st, followed by a service at New Mynnes Parish Church, New Mynnes, Parkgate, Herts, on Sunday June 4th, followed by a service at New Mynnes Parish Church, New Mynnes, Parkgate, Herts, on Monday June 5th, followed by a service at New Mynnes Parish Church, New Mynnes, Parkgate, Herts, on Tuesday June 6th, followed by a service at New Mynnes Parish Church, New Mynnes, Parkgate, Herts, on Wednesday June 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Travel: From Tamil temples to the Taj Mahal, India offers the Journey of a Lifetime; a weekend break at Grosvenor House

THE TIMES
Saturday

25 JUNE - 1 JULY 1983 A WEEKLY GUIDE TO LEISURE, ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS

With Henley starting next week, Adrian Barlow, in the fifth in our series on seasonal diversions, looks at messing about in punts

Solidarity with a pole

At Walton-on-Thames people with large houses and expensive frontages live on the Middlesex bank. The clubhouses of the Thames Valley Skiff Club is on the Surrey side and not exactly a plush affair. Apart from the crates of empties outside, it looks more like a scull hut than the venue for a major sporting event; but it is from here in August, that competitors will set out to contest the Amateur Punting Championship of the Thames, the sport's national competition.

A huge silver rose bowl will testify to the age of the competition. The bowl was first presented in 1886 and bears the names of such eminent past champions as W. H. Grenfell, perhaps the greatest all-round sportsman of his era, and Ralph Bending, champion from 1946 to 1948, who revolutionized the sport by introducing the lightweight aluminium pole and is still revered as one of the finest punting exponents.

Like punting itself, the championship is enjoying a revival. At the end of the 1960s with interest waning and not enough punters of sufficient quality coming through, it was allowed to lapse and as the years went by seemed unlikely to be staged again. But the sport was kept going at local regattas; good young punters emerged, and last year the championship was back.

It was a nostalgic occasion. Bending was not to be lured out of retirement but his successor as champion, Nevill Mifroy, was umpire for the day, and Tony Christie, four times victorious in the past, was there to contest the title he had last won in 1965. The modest setting of Walton may have been a far cry from the days when the championship was held at Maidenhead and merited a special grandstand, a flotilla of launches and a half-page photograph in *The泰晤士报*. But the boats were authentic and included racing punts built before 1914.

Just as a racing scull has little in common with a rowing-boat on the Serpentine, so a "best-and-best" racing punt bears scant resemblance to the elegant, leisurely craft seen at Oxford and Cambridge or Henley. It may be up to 35ft long and, astonishingly, as narrow as 14in or less. The competitor punts from the centre of the boat, whose stem and stern are covered by canvas. He carries two spare poles clipped either side of the punt, and it is one of the great feats of watermanship to change poles at speed (if one becomes stuck in the mud) without losing balance or momentum.

At Walton, though, the bottom was firm and no poles were lost. A punting course is about three-quarters of a mile. Two punts race at a time, starting from a stake-boat, a punt moored across stream. Start and finish are at the same point: at the far end of the course stand two ryepecks, or posts round

which the competitors must turn. Here, the crucial manoeuvre of the race occurs for, instead of steering the punt right round the ryepeck, time is saved by "stopping-up". The pole is jammed obliquely on to the river bed, bringing the punt to a halt. The punter turns to face back up the course and shoves off, passing the other side of the ryepeck as he begins the return journey.

In a tight race the punts stay close to each other and the umpire has to ensure that skilful watermanship does not give way to vicious gamesmanship.

"Taking your opponent's pole" can be serious interference, and well-aimed but unobtrusive shoves can cause havoc. No wonder that Rule 12 of the Thames Punting Club laws states uncompromisingly, "Every punt shall abide by its accidents."

Doubles punting is a fine sight. Local crews from Weybridge, Thames Valley and the Dittions Skiff and Punting clubs raced in pairs with speed and precision: sadly there was no ladies' punting. There used to be a ladies' champion, Penny Chuter (now senior coach to the Amateur Rowing Association); but from the age of 15 she so dominated the event that the opposition lost heart. Now it seems there are no women punters left.

The standard of punting at Walton may not have been vintage, but the Amateur Punting Championship looks set to celebrate its centenary in 1986. If it does, this will largely be due to the enthusiasm of a man who has never had a punt in anger in his life. He is R. T. Rivington, an antiquarian bookseller in Oxford, who, in 1982, became the first person for 10 years to publish a treatise on punting.

Punting and Punting, one of last summer's surprise best-sellers, outlined the origins and development of punting on the Thames, and at Oxford and Cambridge, and dealt in some detail with punt racing and punting techniques. This year saw the publication of Rivington's *Punting: Its History and Techniques*, which in both text and illustrations is the fullest survey of the subject ever published.

The fishing punt is the real precursor of the Thames punt. Traditionally painted green, it was wide and heavy and contained a wet-well: this was a box built across the width of the punt, the lid acting as a seat. Grills either side allowed water to flow through the well, so that catches could be kept fresh.

But the fishing punt was cumbersome to manoeuvre.

"Walking the punt" gave rise to endless jokes in *Punch*, and elsewhere about punters who, as Jerome K. Jerome put it, "had taken just one step more than there was any necessity for, and walked off the punt altogether."

A new and more static technique was required. In a

wonderfully evocative memoir

4,5
Values: Garden furniture; Shopfront; In the Garden; Drink on 1982 claret; classical records Review; Theatre and Galleries

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till, and pricking the boat along, the steering being effected by the direction given to the pole."

The popularity of punting was enormous and, indeed, the punt has come to stand as a symbol of the leisure elegance of the Victorian era. At the universities, undergraduates took lessons in punting from watermen such as Abel Beesley, professional punting champion for 13 years until Grenfell persuaded him to retire and give others a chance. Wherever the river conditions were right, punts replaced skiffs and canoes as the most popular boats for hire.

The Thames Punting Club was founded in 1885 and P. W. Squire, its secretary, extolled the virtues of the pursuit: "The punter faces the direction in which the craft is travelling and he or she can have a good view of the scenery... The punt is also better adapted for luncheon and tea, which... obviates the necessity of reaching an hotel at any special time."

In the iconography of punting, the girl is usually seen lounging on the cushions, gazing up at the man who stands with the pole above her. Yet a surprising number of Victorian paintings and illustrations show how women themselves took to punting.

Grenfell approved: "To the onlooker a lady punter, standing erect and propelling her craft with ease and dexterity, is a more graceful and graceful sight than that of an equally accomplished sister labouring at the oar."

Between the wars the numbers of punts at Oxford and Cambridge diminished slowly; in the 1950s and 1960s the decline accelerated everywhere. The great enemy of the punt is the motor-cruiser, whose wash

and fumes are a constant threat.

A second reason for the decline was cost. Punts are bulky to store and expensive to repair or replace. Before the First World War a Thames punt with full trim could be had for £25; today a punt of the same quality is more than £1,000.

Thirdly, fewer people now

adays know how to punt or are willing to risk an afternoon's

embarrassment while they try to pull the pole from the water and begin the next stroke.

Equally, and understandably, boatmen are reluctant to have their poles lost.

The art of punting is not, in fact, a mystery but of course there is a knack. Punting is not a matter of brute force: once the punt has gained a bit of momentum, the pole is used as much to maintain direction as speed. Secondly, do not be in a

hurry to pull the pole from the water and begin the next stroke.

Thirdly, fewer people now

adays know how to punt or are willing to risk an afternoon's

Thames Punting Club (0734 722259).
R. T. Rivington's *Punts and Punting* (32 pages, £1.50) and *Punting: Its History and Techniques* (240 pages, £10.95) are both published by him at 36 Park End Street, Oxford OX1 1HJ (0885 721809).

Boating continues on page 8 with Family Life afloat and Henley Regatta details in the Week Ahead.

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T256

Where to go upstream without a paddle

From Suffolk to Somerset it is still possible to find punts for hire at several places on the Ouse, the Thames and the Avon, as well as on lakes and canals. This summer a team of students from St Hilda's College sets out to prove that it is still possible to punt direct (more or less) from Oxford to Cambridge - by water some 200 miles.

North of the Trent, however, it is a different story. At Knaresborough, on the river Nidd, it need be possible to punt under the fine viaduct and the high and low bridges. At Durham, until quite recently, you could hire a punt from Brown's boathouse and enjoy one of the most spectacular views in Britain: the cathedral framed by the graceful arches of Prebends Bridge. Now, alas, the only punts to be seen on the Wear belong to the college boathouses.

As for punting north of the border, after the Amateur Punting Championships last year, the secretary of the Honourable Society of Edinburgh Basters challenged the "not-dreadful" Thames Punting Club "to a contest of upstream, white-water punting on a salmon river of their choice."

But if the Edinburgh Basters imagined that there is no one on English waters who may rise to the challenge, they were in for a surprise. At Gloucester-on-Wye in Herefordshire the art of canoe punting (a skill much

prized in Canada and the United States) is being revived. Punting a Canadian canoe through the rapids is a far cry from the parliamentary proceedings at Walton-on-Thames but it all goes to show that punting is far from moribund.

• **CAMBRIDGE:** Nearly everybody punts along the Backs. The architecture is spectacular, but in the high season punting conditions can be chaotic. Punts can be hired either at Magdalene Bridge or Silver Street. For a general outing, take the Granta towards Grantchester.

• **OXFORD:** Punts can be hired by Magdalene Bridge, which is at the centre of the cuts and backwaters which make up the Cherwell. Above the bridge the river is heavily wooded but the bottom is good for easy punting. Below the bridge, the river passes the Botanic

Gardens and Christchurch Meadows. At Folly Bridge you can hire camping punts for upstream trips as far as Lechlade in Gloucestershire. The Cherwell boathouse, Barnwell Road (north Oxford) gives access to some of the most beautiful stretches of river.

• **THAMES:** Punting can be sheer delight or a nightmare: large craters, sudden cross winds and prolonged deep water make this no river for the beginner. Punts are available at Henley, Marlow, Sunbury and Hampton, and at Cottenham Bridge.

• **THE OUSE:** The Ouse in Cambridgeshire is an ideal punting river, meandering, uncrowded and passing through unspoilt country. The best place to punt is at Houghton Mill (a National Trust property and Youth Hostel). Punt races are held annually at the Huntingdon

Huffs: The wooden cross-pegs at either end of the punt.

SWIMS: The sloping underscans of the punt.

TILL: The raised and boarded stem.

SALOON: The seating area where passengers can face each other.

COUNTERS: The canvas coverings at either end of a racing punt.

SHOE: The pronged metal end of the punting pole.

RYEPECK: The turning post at the far end of a punt racing course.





Dream destinations have never been more accessible. Today, in the first of an occasional series, our tour of India begins among the fabled temples of the south

At the temple entrance, boys sell marigold garlands and coconuts beneath huge blue and yellow carved dragons. Inside, flickering neon signs in a mysterious script identify sculptures of many-limbed dancing gods. Priests scurry about. Women chatter and jostle to buy jewelry, tourist mementoes and strip cartoon books recounting the triumphs of the Hindu gods. Staring, smiling children pop up everywhere. The air is perfumed with coconut milk, burning camphor oil and spices. Men roll on the stone floor in the cool half-light, reading, chatting or sleeping. The resident elephant is on his way to take his bath in the temple pool, dangling a red plastic bucket from his trunk.

This was my first visit to a temple in south India. And not at all what I had expected. Warned that the temples would be dull, empty and covered in ugly sculptures and finding confirmation in lavish picture books - I had taken a deep breath at Madurai airport, vowing at least to give them a try. With a car and a driver and guide to give maximum comfort and help, I set out for the unpronounceable Tirupparankundram temple cut into a hillside of rock outside Madurai.

My conversion was instantaneous and complete, which was just as well because temples are everywhere. In the cities there are big ones, teeming with life, where friends meet after work, and little ones on the street corners. Every village has several, all covered from ground

Douglas Dickins



Divine majesty: The magnificent Meenakshi temple complex in Madurai

to roof with jolly, gaily-painted stucco gods, children clambering over them, men asleep in their shade. Many of the magnificent temple complexes built by a succession of powerful rulers have been long abandoned. Their buildings are adorned with beautiful sculptures and they are a peaceful contrast to the noisy city places of worship.

On the way to visit them, through city streets and markets or along bumpy, dusty roads to villages and deserted sites, the whole of south Indian life is on show. It is quite different from the north. Here the people have very dark skin, almost black.

Women dress in luminously bright saris with orange, mauve, crimson and blue chequered patterns. They jingle with silver jewellery - necklaces, bangles on arms, wrists, and several rings round each ear, through each nostril and even on the toes. Men grow tidy black moustaches. They too wear lengths of coloured, chequered cotton, whereas in the north it is white. And they paint the long twisting horns of their bullocks with glossy red and green stripes, sometimes fixing bells or tinsel on the tips.

The women work hard. Up at dawn to fetch water from the well, many then go to work in the paddy-fields, taking metal lunch-boxes on their heads, or work as labourers building the roads. Men seem to get a better

deal, and have a good ally in their beloved, hard-working bullocks.

Tamil is the language of the south, written in a rounded script and spoken very fast. Place names are long and unpronounceable.

Madurai, at the tip of south

India, is pure Hindu and untouched by Mogul sophistication or by the pushy commercialism found more and more in the north. The city is dominated by the vast Meenakshi temple complex. Although mostly built during the seventeenth century, its foundation stretches back at least two millennia, when the city was the capital for the Pandya kings and a centre of learning and pilgrimage. Thousands of pilgrims still visit it daily and the enterprising locals provide them with everything they need - and much they do not.

The temple is protected by a rectangular wall. On each side is a *gopuram* - a tall granite pyramid gateway - every inch carved with fighting, leaping and dancing forms. They are now being painted in their original dazzling colours. Five-headed gods wrestle with 10-armed enemies; hordes of monkeys attack a giant demon; Durga, goddess of war, rides her lion; Ganesh, the elephant god of learning, sits in serene majesty.

In the Golden Lotus pool at the heart of the temple the

faithful cleanse themselves before prayer. Fakirs, religious ascetics, splash about, with long hair piled on top of their heads and faces painted with red and white stripes. Groups of women paddle up to their knees, holding up their best saris, worn especially for the occasion. They wear fragrant jasmine garlands in their hair and yellow turmeric paste on their faces.

In the surrounding corridors pilgrims meditate, read and recite, sitting beneath a ceiling painted with jazzy lotus designs. They are silently watched by sculptures of a king and his first minister, who began an earlier temple on the site. Near by is a wall-painting of Meenakshi, the goddess to whom the temple is dedicated, marrying another god, Shiva. The marriage is re-enacted during a spectacular 10-day festival each spring.

Having washed, the faithful make their way past a carved bull, a stone symbolizing prosperity and protection and, finally, menacing, beady-eyed, stone-carved guards to the inner sanctum, here to perform *pūja*, their religious rites.

Usually non-Hindus may not enter the holiest place but there is plenty more to see. There is a huge safe for large donations. One hundred pounds buys a golden chariot procession and keeps the donor on good terms with the gods. The day and time of the procession are chalked

up on a blackboard so that everybody can enjoy it and know who the virtuous donor is.

Madurai city has other attractions, of course. Bold-painted griffins, dragons and lions look down into the courtyard of the seventeenth-century Thirumalai Naick palace, restored last century by Lord Napier and now used for concerts. And Madurai is one of the main centres for studying the life and works of Mahatma Gandhi. The Gandhi museum exhibits spinning wheels, the Mahatma's glasses and - a bit ghoulish - behind a screen in a darkened room is the homespun dhoti he was wearing when he was assassinated.

Leaving Madurai before dawn, we find the roads already crowded with overloaded bullock carts taking advantage of the cooler hours. As dawn breaks the women assemble at village wells or pumps to fill brass pots, returning home with one on the head, the other on a hip. The driver pulls in at a wayside temple twinkling with fair lights to offer a prayer for a safe journey.

We drive past groundnut plantations, palmaya palms whose leaves are used for roofing, through villages with the communal transistor blaring cracked music. On past farms, over hay strewn in the road so that cars will winnow it and a tiny temple built between huge statues of a horse and elephant, all brightly painted, until the tall gateways of Thanjavur come in sight.

Thanjavur has a welcome

serenity after the hectic buzz of Madurai. It was the capital of the Chola kings from the ninth century to the thirteenth. The emperor Raja Raja built the main temple, whose moat the local women now use for their washing. The detailed carvings of the simple temple buildings lack the baroque exuberance of those at Madurai.

The temples of Thanjavur and Tiruchirapalli near by were built on the wealth of the Chola rice crop, grown in the delta of the Cauvery river, which is still called "the rice-bowl of India". The huge Srirangam temple complex at Tiruchirapalli is full of scampering local children and Indian families on pilgrimage. Every ruling dynasty seems to have had a hand in its construction, and there has been uncharacteristic restoration. But the tenth-century part has not been touched, and here are probably the most sublime and sensitive carvings of women to be found anywhere - a shy maiden awaiting her lover, another putting on a jewel, another standing with a parrot at her feet.

Going west from Madurai, towards the Western Ghats, the land is increasingly fertile as it rises. Women, working in rows, plant out paddy-fields, glistening with water fed from irrigation streams.

At Thekkady the hills rise sharply from the plain. High among them is the Periyar wildlife sanctuary. Here the climate is tropical, the morning air fresh. Enormous creepers clamber up lofty trees, draping leaves as big as tea-trays. Outside a cotton-dyeing building skeins of turquoise and lilac cotton hang up in the garden to dry. Inside men work in humid semi-darkness, cleaning the cotton, then dipping it from poles hung across troughs of dye heated by wooden fires. The cotton is then rinsed and wrung out in a mangal before competing.

for garden space with the cows and bullocks.

To find cotton weavers, listen for the rattle of wooden shuttles as they are thrown back and forth at enormous speed.

However, Kanchipuram's weaving fame lies with the master silk weavers, whose work is some of the most highly prized in all India. The splendid saris worn at weddings, important religious ceremonies and glittering social occasions are made in mud-walled huts.

Weaving is a family affair. The father sits quietly on the floor, spinning Bangalore silk on to the shuttles. His wife and daughter sit on a built-in bench at one end of the loom which almost fills the room. It takes about 15 days to weave 11 yards of saree.

When you have had enough of these smiling, friendly people and cannot face another temple or dusty road, escape to solitude and relaxation on the spectacular palm-fringed beaches.

THE TAJ MAHAL AND AGRA

Pale marble mourns a royal love



The Taj Mahal is a magnet. Every first visit to India should include it. Even the most sceptical, who believe it will compare unfavourably to reproductions on scratched biscuit tin tops, will be converted. The tradition is to see it under the light of a full moon - adored by the Indians, who go on special trips from Delhi - but it is probably better to choose another time, when it will be quieter. Better also to spend a night or two in Agra, where there are other things besides this shimmering monument to be enjoyed in and around the city.

Agra was the Mogul capital in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. The magnificent fort on the banks of the Yamuna River was begun by Emperor Akbar as a military fort. By the time his grandson, Shah Jahan, was making his additions, it was used more as a palace. It was Shah Jahan who added the exquisite Moti Masjid, known as the Pearl Mosque, and the audience halls, and who designed the Octagonal Tower for Mumtaz Mahal, his beloved wife. From high on this tower, a visitor catches a first glimpse across the Yamuna to the Taj, his memorial to Mumtaz. And

continued on page 3, col 1

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Kanchipuram is a thriving provincial town. After the Pallavas left, other rulers built more temples or added to those already there. The easiest way to explore them and to see the town is on a hired bicycle. (They are cheap and readily available.) The old English schoolhouse is smothered in bougainvillea, and public halls are decked out with palm-tree canopies for engagement parties. Musicians practise outside.

The thriving cotton and silk-weaving industries of Kanchipuram began in Pallavan times. As in Madurai, dyers and weavers enjoy being visited. Outside a cotton-dyeing building skeins of turquoise and lilac cotton hang up in the garden to dry. Inside men work in humid semi-darkness, cleaning the cotton, then dipping it from poles hung across troughs of dye heated by wooden fires. The cotton is then rinsed and wrung out in a mangal before competing.

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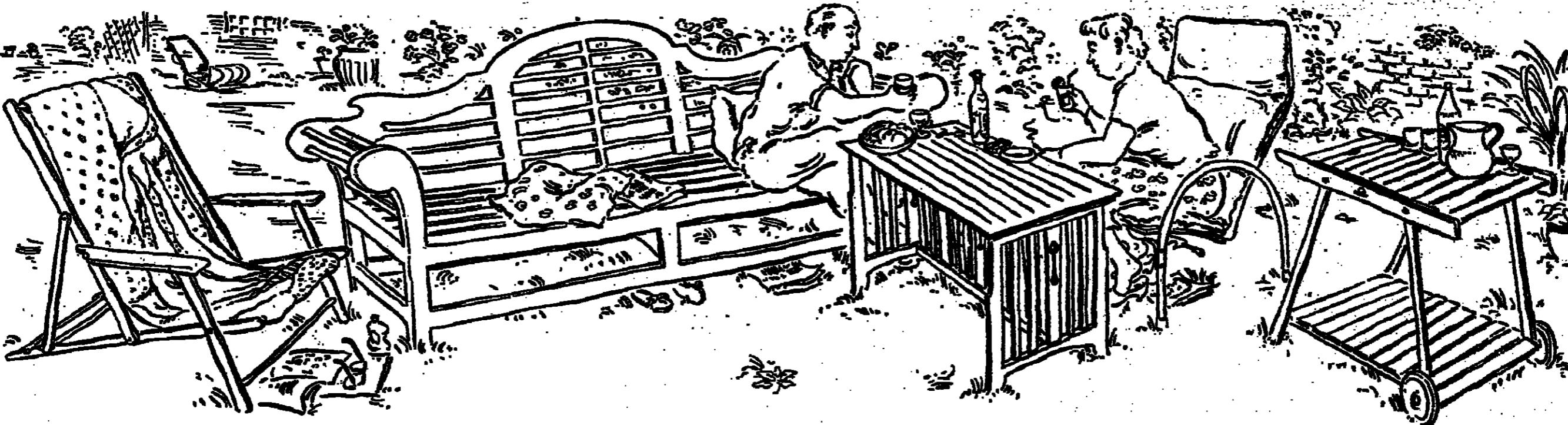
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Montegrotto Terme, the attractively sited Vico Sp (25 miles from Vicenza) is renowned for its mud, mud and thermal mud baths for rheumatism and arthritis. It is also a ideal centre for excursions to Vicenza, Padua, Verona and the nearby Lake Garda. The mud baths have indoor and outdoor pools and treatment facilities, under medical supervision, on short periods.</



Everything in the garden's lovely: Ann Pragnell's red and blue quilted deckchair with red frame £45; curved teak garden seat from the Charles Verney collection, made to a Lutyens design by Green Brothers, £45; white table from the Archibald range by Chatsworth Carpenters for Liberty, 24in x 48in x 30in high, £225; yellow and white Dallas chair £68.50 from John Lewis and branches; white trolley 20in x 34in x 29in high £29.95 (£2.50 p & p) from Whiteoak Design Productions

■ Buying garden furniture in this country is something of a celestial poker game. The minute you put all your money on the table the Great Rainmaker comes out with a royal flush. Which is why I never allow the word deckchair to cross my typewriter before late June. I reckon (without any statistical backing) that if it is not fine enough to get out the sun-lounger during Wimbledon, you have a poor chance of getting your money's worth during the rest of the summer.

The stores would like us all to believe that if we do not snap up the deck chairs before we turn off the central heating there will be nothing left. In practice, the only disadvantage in not making up your mind until the sun does it for you is that you may get caught in the preparations for the sales, which start earlier every year and make shopping for anything appropriate to the season as awkward as possible.

So at this stage of the summer I recommend the General Trading Company, who do not tarnish their image with anything as frenetic as a sale. Their new garden department is a delight - spacious and airy and overlooking the leafy patio where on a steamy day you can stop for a salad and a glass of iced coffee or peppermint tea from the basement restaurant now run by Justin de Blank.

The department is the ideal setting for a new garden range designed for Green Brothers by Charles Verney, whose attitude to his craft is that of a painter rather than a joiner. He sees furniture as a permanent feature of the landscape and his designs

Sitting pretty

Beryl Downing puts her money on a long hot summer and her person on garden furniture with a difference

blend perfectly with the country garden.

Several have a distinctly Chinese Chippendale influence - the handsome latticed-back 6ft set, for instance (£269.50) and the low, wheel-pattern table (£105). These and all the designs in the range are in solid teak, which can be dressed with oil to retain the original colour, but is best left to weather naturally.

Most graceful of all the seats is a faithful version of an Edwin Lutyens design originally made about 1913. It comes in a 5ft 6in size, but is more elegant in the gracefully curved seat illustrated, which is 5ft 6in long and costs £736.40.

All the pieces mentioned are to be seen at the General Trading Company, 144 Sloane Street, London SW1, and can be ordered. The whole range is available direct from the makers, Green Brothers, Hailsham, East Sussex, (0323 845414), who will send a brochure. Until August 31 their introductory prices are much less than those in the stores - the Lutyens seat, for instance, is £495 including delivery.

For simple sun-worshipping the most practical garden seats

are the white plastic-coated loungers that can be left out during the summer but will fold or stack for winter storage. The British-made range by Emu is good value and looks particularly smart in the bright green with diagonal white stripes that General Trading have had made up exclusively for them. Stackable chairs are £23.20 and £49.75, reclining chairs £61.35 and reclining loungers £84.50.

Liberty's sale starts on Monday, so the garden department has shrunk considerably, but there are still some examples of their new range of white painted, high-backed, slatted chairs with strong overtones of the Arts and Crafts movement. They are made by the Duchess

of Devonshire's Chatsworth carpenters and were designed with the collaboration of Richard Stewart-Liberty, exclusively for the store. There are four items: a chair £152, sofa £215, table £225 and tub £25. If you prefer a young, high-tech look, consider John Lewis's Italian range, called with no apparent relevance, Dallas. In bright yellow and white plastic-coated steel a relaxer chair costs £19.50, a matching two-wheeled trolley is £69 and there are several other chairs and tables.

If you never have the right things to hand for a barbecue, a garden trolley with wheels is a useful dump-all. The one illustrated has a removable top tray and four hooks for tools and gloves. A weatherproof cover allows the trolley to be left out and the whole thing can be dismantled and stored in its box. From Whiteoak Design Productions, 27 Brewhouse Hill, Wheathampstead, Herts (058283 3256).

Those who would like an entirely individual garden chair might contact Ann Pragnell, a new young designer who won the judges' approval for her patchwork chairs at the craft

fair held at Warwick university recently.

There are two styles, a deckchair and a director's chair with padded patchwork upholstery in a variety of colours and patterns with the wood frames stained to tone. Prices are from £35.

Ann Pragnell will make up designs and colours to order; send examples of the colours you prefer to her at 9 Bailey Street, Netherfield, Nottingham (no telephone). Her chairs may be seen at Quest, 2 Smith Street, Dartmouth, in July.

For a finishing touch and as summer is not summer without a little madness, how about the alternative garden gnome - a gigantic and extraordinarily revolting toad? He is 1.5m high, about 2ft square and is made of fibreglass, handpainted in the sort of mud-and-slime colours other toads apparently find attractive.

This curiously fascinating creature - a sort of ET with wings - is the creation of a talented display and exhibition designer, Iain Monty, who has just launched a new company producing props for interior designers, stage and television sets and exhibitions.

He specializes in the unusual, imaginative, not to say weird - Olson's head growing out of a branch of a tree, a nude lady chair whose lap is the seat. Everything is made to order at prices from £55 to about £350 (the hamburger) and almost anything is possible in the fields of mural and scenic painting, fibreglass and soft sculpture. Propaganda is at The Studio, 1 Station Mews, London N3 (349 4193 or 446 2176).

Keeping cool
■ Wicker picnic hampers look splendid in television commercials, but always seem to me to be more trouble than they are worth - and unless accompanied by a Rolls

SHOPFRONT on picnics

tend to look as if you have had to

sack the butler and are reduced to

humping the hamper yourself.

I prefer a cold box for the food and

an open basket for the tableware.

It is easy to be misled into buying a

cold box that is too big. True, you

can get the wine in too, but it

becomes so heavy that nobody can

lift it. A smaller rigid cold box (they

keep the food cooler for longer

than the soft ones) and a separate

wine cooler is a better balance.

John Lewis' products (except

Windsor) have Giro-style cool

boxes - the small one is called

model 15 at £9.95; the 20 at £13

and 25 at £17.50 will take bottles,

and their two bottle wine coolers in

green are £19.

Those with particularly thirsty

families might like to consider the

Alaskan Cooler jug with its bright

yellow, blue or green in plastic

casing. It holds eight litres and

costs £22.95 from larger branches

of Boots and from Hills stores.

Or for drinking stylishly outdoors

Liberty's, Regent Street, London

W1, have an attractive range from

France called Alpic, which includes

including postage from the Thump

Walter Company, 26 Market Place,

Warwick (0926 498225).

the vacuum jug illustrated below, in pale pastels at £19.95, with tableware to match at £22.95 each and trays at £7.95.

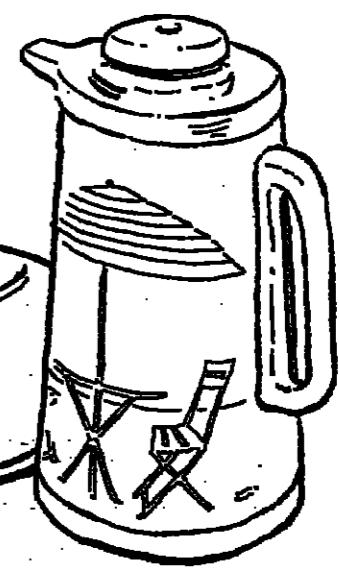
■ There aren't any dramatic strides in picnicware design this year, but Selfridges have an attractive selection of Guzzini tableware in plain bright red in their kitchen gadgets department. The range is called Pomona and plates are £2.05, fruit dishes £1.15, cups and saucers £1.80, mugs 95p.

Or for picnics or any outdoor party or fete there is a splendid new idea called the Thump Walter (illustrated). It is a three-segmented plate with a hole for your thumb and a place for a cup or wine glass in the middle. It comes in red, yellow, blue or green in packs of four for £4.95, with matching cups £4.40 for four, from Liberty, Regent Street, London W1, or direct.

including postage from the Thump

Walter Company, 26 Market Place,

Warwick (0926 498225).



IN THE GARDEN

In praise of the shady lady

The best time to buy ferns is now, when they are showing fronds. Ferns are either creeping, ground-covering types or clump-forming plants; they have somewhat different conditions but do not vary much in their cultivation.

Ferns available include *Dryopteris filix-mas*, known as the "male fern". It becomes a big plant with the fronds sometimes reaching 5ft tall, making it probably too big for the small garden. It does well in most soils and likes to be shaded, as do all of this group. Why male fern? Probably because it is strong and robust, while *Athyrium filix-femina* is known as the "lady fern" on account of its delicate, airy-looking fronds, and although tall has an insubstantial look about it. The lady must have moisture and grows best situated close to a stream, pool or bog; its fronds can be almost 4ft high under good conditions.

Aplenium scolopendrium or the "harts tongue fern" is a great favourite of mine. It has large single fronds that are not divided at all, but are crinkled at the edges, which makes its common name so apt. The fronds can be up to 2ft long; it makes a striking plant when used with the pinnate leaved varieties. Easy to grow (hence its popularity) not only in the garden but also as a pot plant, it may be found under its old name, *Phyllitis scolopendrium*.

Dryopteris dilatata, the "broad buckler fern", is one



Polyodium vulgare: Best in moist soil, facing north often seen growing wild in our hedgerows; this fern will also reach quite a good size and is a useful plant to add interest in an area of shade. The fronds may reach 3ft if the moisture content is right, but it does not like lime.

Aplenium trichomanes has the kind of fronds one usually associates with ferns: known as the maidenhair spleenwort, it has pinnae in pairs in the fall length of the frond. Much smaller than any of the previously mentioned ferns this plant reaches no more than 9in tall and usually much less, so is suitable for a rock garden in a soil which is deep and moist with some lime content. The fronds are light green in contrast to the darker green of most of the ferns previously mentioned. *Blechnum spicant* or the "hard fern" is another robust

grower; to touch the fronds are quite leathery. It does not like lime and will establish itself easily if it likes its position. This fern has its fertile fronds erect while the normal fronds are prostrate.

Dryopteris limbosperma, formerly *Thelypteris limbosperma*, commonly called the "mountain buckler fern" or the "lemon-scented fern", is a good bet in most gardens. Particularly in early spring the unfurling fronds are very attractive; their white hairs give them an almost luminous appearance. On the underside of the fronds are a series of glands which offer a strong lemony fragrance; this form does not like lime. *Polyodium vulgare Pulcherrimum*, a form of the common Polyodium, up to 12in tall, is a good spreader. It loves chalky areas and can be found wild on walls and even up the base of trees.

To complete the picture there is an even bigger fern to look for: *Osmunda regalis* or the "Royal fern". This is like a medium-sized shrub and loves to be close to the water-side, where it will make a handsome specimen. By the way, its fronds each spring are an eye-catching sight.

Prices vary according to size and scarcity value; good-sized plants of all those mentioned will cost between £1.40 and £5 each, from Fibres Nurseries, Evesham, Worcestershire, or Bressingham Gardens, Diss, Norfolk.

Ashley Stephenson

DRINK

Pitfalls of a prize vintage

The 1982 weather pattern for red Bordeaux was pretty well perfect, with an early flowering producing lots of grapes, which with the warm sunny days in July and August, ripened well; but it was a fortnight of exceptionally hot weather in early September that actually pushed the '82 clarets into the first division.

Scarcely had the wine finished fermenting than those all too familiar French cries of "vintage of the century" and "better than the '61s" were heard - and that was why I decided to go out to Bordeaux earlier this year to see for myself.

My conclusion was that yes this bumper harvest - some 3.5 million hectolitres of red appellation contrôlée wine - had produced some very fine wine indeed. Christian Moueix of the reowned Château Petrus told me that 1982 was the "best vintage" since '61 for Bordeaux" adding

that it "won't be as concentrated as the '61s", a view shared by Peter Sichel of Château Palmer. Nathaniel Johnston, a respected Bordeaux merchant, emphatically stated that the '82 was "a superb year especially for the top châteaux. He went on to say that with the petit château selection is vital.

And this is important for the lesser '82 wines are a bit of a mixed bag and what the grapevine neglected to pass on last autumn is that heavy rain started on October 4 in Bordeaux, when there was roughly 10 per cent of the crop still to be harvested.

As always, when buying *en primeur* make certain you go to a reputable wine merchant, who will still be around when your wine is finally delivered.

And this is important for the lesser '82 wines are a bit of a mixed bag and what the grapevine neglected to pass on last autumn is that heavy rain started on October 4 in Bordeaux, when there was roughly 10 per cent of the crop still to be harvested.

For most of the wines listed above Henry Townsend, Chalk

Pit House, Coleshill, Anerley, Bucks, offer some of the cheapest prices, followed by John Harvey & Sons, Harvey House, Whitchurch Lane, Bristol, Adams, Sole Bay Brewery, Southwold, Suffolk; Lay & Wheeler, 6 Culver Street West, Colchester, Essex; and Laytons, 20 Midland Road, London NW1, also stock several of these wines.

Jane MacQuitty



REAL IMPORTED GERMAN LAGER

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REVIEW Classical records of the month

Anniversary couple and a Ring losing its lustre

Perhaps one should not raise one's expectations so high. Last year there arrived from Europe a *Rheingold*, of strong splendour to whet the appetite, and then a quite astonishingly full, rich and grandly dramatic *Walküre*. The *Siegfried* now added to the cycle perpetuates many of the fine qualities already indicated: in particular, it provides another feast of excellent playing from the Dresden orchestra, who never take anything for granted, and a further instalment in March Janowksi's vision of the *Ring* as majestic expression, imposing always attention to detail, clarity of texture, and unpressed forward movement. As before, the absence of "personality" in the conducting, by comparison with other famous versions, makes it possible for the music to execute its own drama, and it often seems that the feeling is most powerful and urgent when no voices are singing.

Unfortunately, this is especially the case in a *Siegfried* of more dubious vocal accomplishment than the preceding *Walküre*. There are no worries about René Klemperer's Siegfried, singing in green and golden youth, much more a poet than a tough guy: this is quite possibly the best thing he has done on record, and the long lines are there quite as decisively as the sudden lyrical ejaculations. But around him all is not quite so well.

Theo Adam's Wanderer could hardly be matched for understanding – and there is a lot in this opera for the Wanderer to understand – but his shortness of breath keeps him from any long-term phrasing of question and demand. Jeannine Almeyde's Brünnhilde suffers from the same fault. Together they had brought the *Walküre* to a thrilling conclusion: separated here, they seem to have moved on too little.

However, there are things to admire among the rest of the cast. Peter Schreier is a surprising choice as Mime, but an inspired one. Like Mr Adam, he is of course a singer of great intelligence and also one of keen artistry: he shows for once how in this role ugliness can be sung beautifully and with no loss of meaning, rather an intensification. The set is, all in all, a more uneven achievement than its predecessors, but it still has more than enough of good new sense to recommend it. One tries to calm one's expectations of the *Götterdämmerung* already recorded.

Meanwhile, to honour Wagner's partner in this year's anniversary waltz, there is a new recording of Brahms's

Wagner: Siegfried, Siegfried, Dresden Staatskapelle/Janowksi, Eurodisc 301 810-485 (live records); Brahms Violin Concerto, Vienna PO/Benatti, DG 2522 082; Prokofiev: Romeo and Juliet, same 1-2; National SO/Prokofiev, De 2522 077.

Violin Concerto from two unlikely collaborations: Gidon Kremer and Leonard Bernstein. In fact the combination of extreme fineness and breadth works rather well, and it is fascinating to observe Kremer adapting Bernstein's generous phrasing to his own purposes when he has to. There is also, in Kremer's recent recording of the Beethoven concerto, an unusual choice of cadenza: not a new one this time but Roger's Prelude in D Minor from his Op 117 spliced into the first movement.

I regret this Roger piece is unknown to me, and I have not been able to locate a copy of it, but unless Kremer has revised it for its new home, it contains a surprising number of memories of the Brahms concerto, quite enough to make it a very plausible cadenza were it not a shade long and even in tone. The principle of trying something else in the cadenza line is,

however, wholly admirable.

Equally admirable are Mstislav Rostropovich's performances of the two suites *Préludes* from *Romeo and Juliet*. As the sleeve reminds us, Rostropovich was close to Prokofiev in the early 1950s, and though one might have doubts that these recordings preserve any performance imitation handed on by the composer, they certainly have the right feel, with a rhythmic cutting right through the melodic-like rhythms, the pompous staccato and the high romantic love music, not sapping these scores of character but lucidly and colourfully enhancing them.

Paul Griffiths



Classical trio from left: Agnes Baltsa, a witty Rosina; Julian Lloyd Webber, delving in English cello archives; violinist Jacques Thibaud

Marriner's impressive sortie

At a time when so much recording of Italian opera seems a matter of perming four singers from a regular pool of 10 or so it is a delight to welcome Philips' new *Barber* this month. The team has been assembled with flair and imagination, spiced with a little adventure. Not only has the company gone for the rising generation of artists, it has also picked a conductor new to opera, Neville Marriner. He has, of course, made records for Philips by the carload, but his operatic contribution has stopped where the singing begins.

His performance with the orchestra of the Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields is so fresh and lively that it is extraordinary that to date he has not ventured beyond the overture. But the style that he gives Rossini's score suggests that there will be new career opportunities opening out, not least because of the ease with which he appears to work with the singers and they with one another.

Agnes Baltsa's Rosina has all the temperament that characterized her recent Covent Garden Carmen. The voice is not huge, but it has a cutting edge, and

company, I can only endorse all his enthusiasm. The machine is exceedingly easy to handle and install, even by a mechanical fumblefingers such as myself. The only initial hiccup was a pause between tracks – irritating to have to reactivate play when you are putting the sound through speakers in another room – but this was cleared by the simple means of switching the Pause button to off.

Marriner is much in evidence in the new batch of compact releases, with Mozart's piano concertos K450 and K467, with Brendel at the keyboard outstanding (Philips 400 018-2). Colin Davis's *L'Orfeo du feu* with the Concertgebouw (Philips 074 2) is somewhat older, but none the worse for that, DG have just begun simultaneous releases on conventional disc, cassette and compact including this month Bernstein and the L.A. Philharmonic compiling Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue* with the *West Side Story* dances. Bernstein and Gershwin have always gone well together. A stunning record (DG 020 022), especially for those prepared to pay the extra for compact.

John Higgins

Glints from dusty corners

Carlo/Tibaud/Casals, The Complete Recordings 1928-60, Opel 815/6 (2 records)

Saint-Saëns: Sonata No 1/Cello Concerto, Tortelier/de la Pau, EMI/P4571

Daluis: Cello Concerto etc, Lloyd Webber/Philharmonic/Hanley, RIAS 9010. Cassette RSK 9010

Brahms: Piano Quintet/String Quartet, Pollini/Quartetto Italiano, Philips 5717 010 (three records)

Boccherini: 3 String Quartets, Quartetto Italiano, Philips 6505 050

rapport with Maria de la Pau's piano playing in the "Dance of the Priestesses of Dagon". It is complemented by Saint-Saëns's *Sonata No 1*, full-blooded music played with fervent earthy energy.

Through the scratches, off joins and limited dynamic scale comes their finely spun, minutists reading of Haydn's *Piano Trio* No 25, pediced with Cortot's fiddling and sweetened by the spider's web portamento of Thibaud. Casals's cello entry in the slow movement of the Schubert *Trio No 1* in B flat is a wonder of ripe understanding, while his long legato opening in the Mendelssohn *D minor Trio* heralds the most fluent and spontaneous performance of the entire set.

Paul Tortelier has unearthed a particularly attractive set of Saint-Saëns transcriptions from operas, orchestral and instrumental works, which he plays with a shrewd understanding of the composer's robust yet sophisticated romanticism.

There is the inevitable *Carnival* Swan, an ardent, though restrained account of Dahlia's

"Mon cœur s'ouvre à ta voix", and a delightfully mischievous

performance of the *Op.58*.

Hilary Finch

Nicholas Kenyon

PREVIEW Theatre

Critics' choice

AS YOU LIKE IT

Open Sat, Regent's Park (083 2431)

June 27-29 at 7.45pm; matinee June 29 at 2.30pm, in repertory until end of Aug

Not just a pretty production

(Victorian maidens and Thomas

Hardy rustics) but a sensitive,

intelligent one, that, in its natural

woodland setting, makes a magic

summer evening. Louie

Jameson's lovely Rosalind holds

the high comedy and the pathos in delicate balance, John Curry

(Orlando) proves a champion

wrestler and David William is a

superbly distinguished Jaques.

BEETHOVEN'S TENTH

Vaudreuil (036 5965)

Mon-Sat at 8pm; matinees Wed at 2.45pm, Sat at 4.30pm

Ludwig's posthumous visit to the home of a pompous London music critic gives Peter Ustinov a starting-point for a literate, if confused, comedy, ranging over topics like the generation gap, Beethoven's mistresses, and his experiences since death. Very variable, but the best bits are gloriously funny and Ustinov himself as the feisty, courageous mischievous composer, gives the sort of performance for which one would sit through a great deal.

DAISY FULLER IT OFF

Globe (037 1592)

Mon-Sat at 8pm; matinees Wed at 3pm, Sat at 8pm

Denise Deegan's straight-faced

recreation of a 1920s girl school

– all prize poems, hockey matches

and Empire-building values – sends

the world of Angela Brazil straight

up and over the top. Thoroughly

unstable, nostalgic and

wholesome.

EDMUND KEAN

Haymarket Theatre Royal (030 9832)

Mon-Sat at 7.30pm. For a short

season

Ininitely subtler than his recent TV

version, Ben Kingsley's solo

performance as the great

nineteenth-century tragedian is one

of the finest feasts of acting in

London. Raymond Pizzi/Simon's

script carries him from starving

obscenity through Drury Lane

triumph to a drunken death with

style and an astringent sense of

irony.

A MAP OF THE WORLD

Lytton (028 2222)

Today at 8pm; Ends July 2

Left unperformed for 30 years, Ena

Lamont Stewart's play observes

the unloved husbands and

overworked wives of 1930s

Glasgow with sharp accuracy and

humour. Gibbs Haverhill's cleverly

non-realistic production is a work

of art in itself, without detracting from

the whole as a deeply moving

and still relevant study of sexual

Eloquent madrigals with a clean vocal edge

The French label Harmonia Mundi is now rivalling our own Oiseau-Lyre Florilegium label as a provider of imaginatively programmed, well produced recordings of early music. The ensemble Les Arts Florissants, which is supported by the French government and is due to make its first appearance here later this year, has made an impressive series of records: the most and most ambitious is this *Monteverdi* disc, coupling the mini-opera *Il ballo delle ingrate* with the madrigal *Lagrime d'amante*. Both works were published in Monteverdi's madrigal books, but the soloistic declamation of the former contrasts strongly with the chordal declamation of the latter.

Il ballo is done on a large

scale, with double the number of instruments. Monteverdi specifies (he suggested the doubling for a large room, surely an unnecessary device for a domestic recording). The instruments have been rather distantly, fuzzily recorded, but this only serves to highlight the interplay of voice and continuo, which is splendidly managed. Some of the great set-pieces, such as *Pluto's aria*, are crisply done, elsewhere some individual voices are not quite equal to the demands made on them.

In *Il Sestina* (that is, a six-part madrigal cycle) *Lagrime d'amante*, the same singers make an incomparably stronger effect. Because each is a soloist, they can project the lines with character and strength; yet the firm controlling hand of the

ensemble, though the climaxes make the lines come together. Without the wobbly, bulging sounds which disfigure other recordings of this masterpiece, the ensemble can project its passions and torments with a clean edge that enhances immeasurably the music's impact.

There are admirably clean edges and vibrato-less sounds, too, on the *Consort of Musicks*' interesting contrasted recording on Florilegium of Monteverdi's later contemporary Sigismondo d'India. These virtuosic, brilliant pieces, which suddenly whip up the most striking dissonances from a line of text, surely require a more soloistic treatment. The Consort has decided to treat them as ensemble pieces, and though the matching of the lines and tuning is impeccable, there are times when these light, crisp voices cannot quite match the demonstrativeness of the music.

Godea del sol i sei almost

defeats them, though the climax is thrilling, but I loved the intense clashes of *Lidia le lasso*, and the sustained eloquence of the five-part madrigal cycle on side one, where d'India almost approaches the opera he never, alas, wrote.

Two further revelations from French Harmonia Mundi are the remarkable cantatas and laments of the singer and composer Barbara Strozzi (who published her music a generation after d'India) and the viol music of Marin Marais. The Strozzi pieces, with their wild chromaticisms and expressionist devices, are sung with a deft feeling for their eccentricities by Judith Nelson; I especially enjoyed the languorous *Appresso a i moli* and *Agri*. Marais is another piece which seems lunatic at first glance and offers up its rewards only after a while. *La Gamine en forme de petit opéra* is a strange, very long fantasy on the notes of the scale, parodying Italian forms with great wit.

It is played by London Baroque; when I heard the group play part of this piece in public, I thought it dull and the playing insufficiently projected. But heard again in this close, sensitive recording, the players' clarity of articulation and careful matching of bow-stroke with musical phrase, of dance-tempo with rhythmic movement, make the music spring to life.

From bright French sunlight to English haze as Julian Lloyd Webber continues his worthy burrowing into neglected, notably English, corners of the cello repertoire. After a valuable recording of Frank Bridge's *Oration*, he now presents, twinned with the Delius Concerto, the world premier recordings of Holst's *Invocation* and Vaughan Williams's *Fantasia on Sussex Folk Tunes*. Holst's experimenting for "Venus" has left us with not only an interesting example of sketch-

script

relations under heavy economic pressure.

PEER GYNT

The Pit, Barbican Centre (020 8796)

June 27, 28, July 1, at 7.30pm. In repertory

Simply but thoughtfully staged by Ron Daniels, this pocket-sized Peer is surprisingly accessible and enjoyable. David Rudkin's acting version transposed into Ulster speech is highly poetic and persuasive, and Derek Jacobi's successive personae as blarneying country wild-boy, opulent entrepreneur and fearful greybeard are convincing even in close-up.

THE TIMES SWEATSHIRT

The classic stretch-knit sweatshirt originated in the U.S.A. as a comfortable easy-fit top for sports and leisure activities. The design, crew-neck with deep raglan sleeves and stretch-knit neck cuffs and hem, makes it a useful multi-purpose garment that offers a practical alternative to traditional pullovers and sweatshirts for casual and holiday wear.

M U.S. clothing manufacturer has produced a range of high-quality sweatshirts specifically designed for The Times readers, with the 'The Times' flock printed on the left breast of each shirt. The fabric

ENTERTAINMENTS

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on the
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LIVE ROOM 18 JUNE-10 JULY

London in Prints. An exhibition of unique prints and maps of London and its environs. Open from 10.00 am to 10.30 pm weekdays and 10.00 am to 10.30 pm Sundays.

Royal Festival Hall.

Today 25 June 7.30pm

BBC INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF LIGHT MUSIC. Radio 3. London Philharmonic Orchestra, Sir Charles Groves, conductor. John Hollingworth, piano. Directed by Donald Maxwell. Shostakovich: Suite from the Ballet 'Romeo and Juliet'. Beethoven: Symphonies No 7 & 8. Op. 93. Op. 94. £2.50. £3.50. £4.50. £5.50. £6.50. £7.50. £8.50. £9.50. £10.50. £11.50. £12.50. £13.50. £14.50. £15.50. £16.50. £17.50. £18.50. £19.50. £20.50. £21.50. £22.50. £23.50. £24.50. £25.50. £26.50. £27.50. £28.50. £29.50. £30.50. £31.50. £32.50. £33.50. £34.50. £35.50. £36.50. £37.50. £38.50. £39.50. £40.50. £41.50. £42.50. £43.50. £44.50. £45.50. £46.50. £47.50. £48.50. £49.50. £50.50. £51.50. £52.50. £53.50. £54.50. £55.50. £56.50. £57.50. £58.50. £59.50. £60.50. £61.50. £62.50. £63.50. £64.50. £65.50. £66.50. £67.50. £68.50. £69.50. £70.50. £71.50. £72.50. £73.50. £74.50. £75.50. £76.50. £77.50. £78.50. £79.50. £80.50. £81.50. £82.50. £83.50. £84.50. £85.50. £86.50. £87.50. £88.50. £89.50. £90.50. £91.50. £92.50. £93.50. £94.50. £95.50. £96.50. £97.50. £98.50. £99.50. £100.50. £101.50. £102.50. £103.50. £104.50. £105.50. £106.50. £107.50. £108.50. £109.50. £110.50. £111.50. £112.50. £113.50. £114.50. £115.50. £116.50. £117.50. £118.50. £119.50. £120.50. £121.50. £122.50. £123.50. 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THE WEEK AHEAD

Today

PRUDENTIAL TROPHY: The cricket world cup final is being played before a packed house at Lord's. The West Indians, who won the previous competitions in 1973 and 1979, seem to possess more than enough batting and fast bowling to make it a hat-trick, but India have sprung several surprises and could just do so again. The match starts at 10.45 am; there is bell-ball commentary on Radio 3 (medium wave) and extensive television coverage on BBC1 and BBC2.

DONINGTON GOLDEN JUBILEE: Fifty years of the Derbyshire motor racing circuit are being celebrated in a special programme of races today and tomorrow. A highlight is the return of Stirling Moss, driving a Chevron sports car in a 20-lap, 40-mile race for exotic sports prototypes, GT cars and Can-Am's of the late 1960s. Other well known drivers taking part in the meeting are Derek Bell, three times winner of Le Mans, and the young 'flying doctor', Jonathan Palmer. Castle Donington, Derby (0222 810048). Racing starts today at 12.20 pm (with coverage on TV's *World Of Sport*) and tomorrow at 1.45 pm.

FIDDLER ON THE ROOF: Topol, the original star, in a revival of the musical which was first seen in London in 1967. Music by Jerry Bock, production staged by Ruth Mitchell. Apollo Victoria (028 8865/884 0153). Previews today and Monday at 7.30pm. Opens Tuesday at 7pm. Monday to Saturday at 7.30pm; matinées on Thursday and Saturday at 2.30pm.

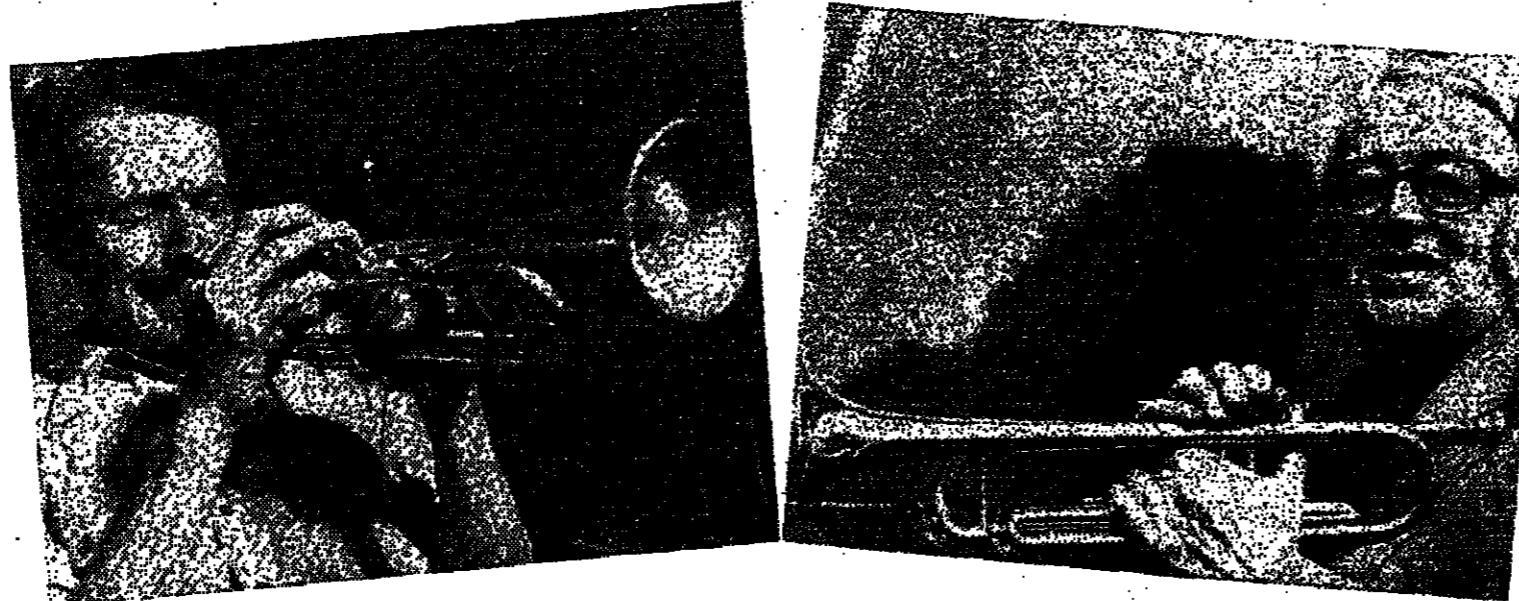
Tomorrow

MONDRIANS ON VIEW: Paintings from the collection of the New York architect, Armand P. Bartos, are being exhibited today, together with the contents of other forthcoming sales of impressionist and modern art. Clarice Cliff pottery and textile art. The 17 paintings from the Bartos collection include two by Mondrian, one of which could go for \$1m at the sale tomorrow (6.30 pm). Christie's, King Street, London SW1 (0151 9060), 2-5 pm.

HUMPHY AT 35: Humphrey Lyttleton, the most popular British jazz band leader of the post-war era, celebrates 35 years in show business with a special concert which also features Wally Fawkes and Kathy Stobart. The programme makes a musical journey through Humphy's early revivalist period, to the popular eight-piece band of the 1960s and the dynamic mainstream band of today. BBC2, 9.15-10.05 pm.

Monday

AFRICAN ART: Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan's collection of African art goes under the hammer today. The 73 lots, estimated to realize over £750,000, include an Ibo wood maternity figure, a Baham beaded chief's throne and a Bantu-Portuguese ivory salt-cellar.



Sotheby's, New Bond Street, London W1 (0151 8080), 11 am.

THE MUCH-POSTPONED AND REWRITTEN MUSICAL: Originally called "I", it is scheduled to open tonight. The Piccadilly Theatre has been transformed into a cabaret-disco-restaurant theatre for the show which stars Arturo Brachetti. Piccadilly (0171 4506). Monday-Saturday at 8pm, dinner from 7pm. After-show admission, with supper, midnight cabaret and disco, from 11pm to 2am.

THE PERFECTIONIST: Comedy about "modern marriage" by David Williamson, author of *The Club*. Robin Lefevre directs a cast of five, including Barbara Flynn, Paul Freeman, Colette O'Neill, Hampstead Theatre, Swiss Cottage, London NW3 (722 9224). Opens tonight at 7pm. Monday to Saturday 8pm; matinée on Saturday at 4.30pm.

Tuesday

WILD BEASTS AND LIVING PICTURES: Orchard Theatre are touring the West Country with a show which brings back the world of pre-cinema travelling showmen. Film footage shot in the region, 1895-1910, plus magic lantern, dancing girls, clowns and acrobats. A free half-hour outdoor show precedes the main performance in the 300-seater marquee. Castle Green, Barnstaple, Devon (0271 71475). Opens today at 8pm (7.30pm for the free show), Tuesday to Saturday 8pm. Ends July 2. Moves for a week in each town: Bristol, Bodmin, Sherborne, Taunton, Exmouth, Paignton and Swanage.

SPORT AND SOUTH AFRICA: As a United Nations conference meets in London to discuss the tightening of sports sanctions against South Africa because of apartheid, this programme looks at progress towards racial integration and asks whether such measures are justified. Ron Pickering visited South Africa and his report covers rugby, athletics, cricket, boxing and soccer. BBC1, 9.25-10.30pm.



Life in the fast lane: Humphrey Lyttleton, blowing hot revivalist jazz in 1949 (top left), mainstream today (top right), celebrates 35 years of jazz (tomorrow); Donington Park's golden jubilee of racing features Stirling Moss and Derek Bell (see today)

Wednesday

NATWEST TROPHY: The minor counties get their chance in the first round of cricket's 60 days knockout competition and among the would-be giant killers are Cambridgeshire, who take on Middlesex at Wisbech; Essex, who play Essex at Bournemouth; and Lincolnshire, drawn against the holders, Surrey. Play starts at 10.30 am.

RICHARD CARLINE: Of late years known principally as Stanley Spencer's brother-in-law, Richard Carline was a painter of some distinction in his own right and an important figure in Britain during the 1930s. The memorial exhibition (he died in 1980) has more than a hundred works, and fills in the background absorbingly, too. Camden Arts Centre, Arkwright Road, London NW3 (435 2543). Until July 24, Monday to

ON YOUR BIKE: One hundred years of cycling are represented in today's sale. The earliest bicycle dates from the reign of George III; it has a wooden frame and iron supports and is known as a pedestrian hobby horse bicycle (22,000-23,000). Other machines include an 1860s boneshaker (2750-21,200), two penny-farthings (2850-22,700 each) and an Edwardian Dursley-Pedersen (2500-2700). Phillips Bloomsbury Place, New Bond Street, London W1 (0151 8080), 10.30am and 2.30pm.

FLASHDANCE: Film about a beautiful working girl who finds release from reality at night as a "flashdancer". Starring Jennifer Beals and Michael Nouri. Music by Irene Cara. Cort 15, Empire (0171 437 1234).

KING OF COMEDY: Martin Scorsese's film of a fan of a chat show host who is obsessed with getting a guest spot on his show and eventually kidnaps his host to realize his ambition. Starring Robert De Niro and Jerry Lewis. Cart PG. Gate Notting Hill (221 0220/727 5750). Screen on the Hill (435 3366).

ONE FROM THE HEART: Opening of Francis Coppola's new film. (See page 7.)

TENDER MERCIES: Bruce Beresford's film of the relationship between a singer who has lost out to his own fame and a woman widowed in the war. Starring Robert Duvall and Tess Harper. Cart PG. ABC Shaftesbury Avenue (0151 8861) and ABC Fulham Road (370 2636).

Family Life

Happy days in dire straits

Saturday on the water front: Judy Froshaug takes the family afloat on a narrow boat

Had anyone told me last Saturday that by Sunday evening I would be hooked on narrow boats and canals, I would have suggested, respectfully, that they had water on the brain. I had nothing against narrow boats; but like gypsies, they were the stuff of television documentaries. Apart from which, with builders at present demolishing part of my house so that we are all temporarily squashed into a couple of rooms, the thought of swapping one restricted area for another held little charm.

So it was with some apprehension that we stepped out on the narrow boat. At least, some of us did. The Old English purred through his fringe, shivered, and jumped off on to the jetty again and the boys said no way was this venture going to work.

The owner of Braunston Boats, Northants, a brisk gentleman in a beard and tartan shirt, explained how to start, stop, accelerate and reverse the stiff-long, streamlined boat - at my request, several times. "We have hundreds of families of varying degrees of ineptitude every year and the vast majority

manage", he said, looking me straight in the eye, defining my need to deviate from the norm.

"Are you well insured?" I asked. "Of course," he said. "If you get into real difficulties, phone this number." He smiled, wished us a good day and told us to have the boat back by about six - seven hours away. As an afterthought he advised us to allow 6ft when passing another boat. Having failed a driving test by giving exactly this amount of leeway to a wobbly cyclist, I suggested a little more. "Not if it's narrow - you'll get stuck on the bank."

Half an hour later, with the sun beaming down on us, we were singing "This is the life". Steering the boat was easy provided one didn't look back or think too hard about what one was doing. We passed several boats, the time of day and bumped into nothing.

Cows and sheep and poppies and buttercups were all around, down to the lapping water's edge where mallards and moorhens bobbed. Ducklings who looked certain to be run down scouted across the water, out of our path, just in time. Church spires and windmills beckoned from hills and the wind murmured ever so lightly in the willows... idyllic. At Napton

we were joined by friends bearing ice buckets, champagne, Cokes and sandwiches.

The inevitable happened when we tried to turn round. We got stuck. A benign sun-tanned buffer in shorts gave us a hand, lots of advice and after much huffing, puffing, poling and vaulting from boat to bank we were reluctantly, homeward bound.

If the idea of a canal holiday appeals, the best way to find out if you really would enjoy it is to fo as we did and give it a day's trial.

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Narrow escape: a Braunston boat heads for a quiet cruise

Bridge

Nobility bows to humble heart

It has been suggested that one explanation of official Russian disapproval of bridge stems from the royalist imagery of the playing cards themselves.

Perhaps the two hands I will describe would reassure sometimes that the proletarian sometimes has a vital role to play.

Teams: East-West Game. Dealer South.

North East S
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SNT No No
No No

10 14 No 34
No 44 No 84

10 14 No 34
No 44 No 84